INSTRUCTIVE RAMBLES

IN

LONDON

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Mary Ann, Ba[illegible]

~~1210.M.37~~
1210.M.37

R. K. Porter 1798 — Tassi

Greatness and power cannot always secure its possessor from the bleak Wind, or pityless Storm.

Vide page 97

INSTRUCTIVE RAMBLES

IN

LONDON,

AND

THE ADJACENT VILLAGES.

DESIGNED TO AMUSE THE MIND, AND IMPROVE THE UNDERSTANDING OF YOUTH.

By *ELIZABETH HELME.*

K

" Let us consider that youth is of no long duration; and that
" in maturer age, when the enchantments of fancy shall cease,
" and phantoms of delight no more dance about us, we shall
" have no comfort but the esteem of wise men, and the means
" of doing good "

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1800.

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PREFACE.

In writing the following sheets, my design has been to blend instruction with amusement; to give "Virtue its own feature, "Vice its own image;" and to shew the necessity of all evil propensities being crushed in infancy; and that children of good natural abilities and dispositions may be led to tread the paths of truth and rectitude, as easily as they may be suffered to imbibe erroneous opinions; which, like the weeds in the Scripture, that choaked the corn, destroy the virtuous principles implanted in them by their Creator. To inculcate a love of study, industry, charity, duty to parents, &c. has been my wish; and equally to discourage idleness, dissatisfaction with our situation, vanity, falsehood, and arrogance.—Should I be happy enough to awaken in the susceptible bosom of uncorrupted childhood any of the former, how greatly will my efforts be repaid! Nor will

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my recompence be less, should I crush in the bud any of the hydras last mentioned; the least of which gives existence to as many crimes, as that fictitious serpent is said to have possessed heads.

In my choice of the historical sketches, I have selected such as I thought might interest young minds sufficiently to make them the more readily peruse the annals of their country; as I have generally observed that children, when possessed of what they consider amusing information; read history the more willingly; and thus in seeking the shadow, *amusement*, frequently find the reality, *knowledge*.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

CHAP. I.

Introduction to Mr. Richardſon's Family.—A Diſcourſe on well-regulated Pleaſures.

ONE fine morning in the month of October, Mr. Richardſon, a conſiderable merchant of the city of London, went to Reading, in order to bring home his children, Charles and Mary, from a relation with whom they had been placed ſince the death of their mother.

The lady with whom they had reſided, though well-meaning, was a woman of weak underſtanding: during the life of her huſband, ſhe had given way to her inclination for gaiety and expence; but the means failing with him, ſhe was neceſſitated to retire to a ſmall houſe in the

vicinity of Reading; where, by the aſſiſtance of Mr. Richardſon, ſhe was enabled to make a reſpectable appearance.

Mrs. Bennet, for ſo was ſhe named, had been educated with the late Mrs. Richardſon, but their tempers were totally diſſimilar; the firſt was thoughtleſs, and fond of pleaſure, which ſhe knew not how to procure, except in the diſſipation of the great world; the ſecond, reflective and domeſtic, poſſeſſed a mind that furniſhed her with continual amuſement; for as the bee collects honey from every flower, ſo did this excellent woman her pleaſures from every ſurrounding object;—an affectionate wife, a tender mother, a good miſtreſs, and a beneficent friend to the poor. Notwithſtanding theſe contrarieties of temper, the friendſhip cemented in their childhood ſtill continued; and ſince the misfortunes of Mrs. Bennet, Mrs. Richardſon had frequently invited her to paſs a few months with them in London; where, whatever might be her real inclination, ſhe took care to ſuppreſs it, and appear perfectly

perfectly satisfied with the amusements and harmony of their domestic circle. During one of these visits Mrs. Richardson fell sick, and died, to the inexpressible grief of the whole family; and in the confusion that such an event occasioned, willing to remove his children from a scene of sorrow, their father had consented for them to accompany Mrs. Bennet into the country.

Mr. Richardson, though possessed of religion and fortitude, had nearly sunk beneath this stroke; he was unable to apply to business, his health became impaired, and the physicians found it necessary to prescribe the Bath waters.—Here, at some distance from the bustle and gaiety of the place, he remained for several months, when time and reflection began to restore him to himself, and he determined to return to town, arrange his business, recal his children, and make their improvement and happiness his first and dearest concern. Above twelve months had passed since Mrs. Richardson's death, when their father came

for them; his viſits in that period, from the diſtance, had not been ſo frequent as he could have wiſhed, nor was he by any means aware of the erroneous opinions they had imbibed, for Mrs. Bennet's mind ſtill reverted to her former gaieties, which ſhe did not fail to repreſent to the children in the moſt facinating colours.

Charles had juſt attained his eleventh, and Mary her ninth year; the firſt, reflective and ſerious, wanted only the hand of inſtruction, to point out to him the proper purſuits he ſhould follow; the latter, lively and volatile, needed not only inſtruction, but the curb of reſtraint; ſhe was particularly pleaſed with the accounts ſhe received from Mrs. Bennet, and eagerly wiſhed to partake in her amuſements.

Mr. Richardſon, after paſſing one night at Reading, ſet off early the enſuing morning with his children for London. They parted from Mrs. Bennet with concern; for ſhe had been eager to gratify all their little caprices; but the preſence of a reſpected father, who never refuſed them

them any laudable indulgence, ſoon baniſhed the paſt, and future gratification engroſſed every thought. "My dear Sir," ſaid Mary, "I am glad we are going to town; "for though I loved Mrs. Bennet very "dearly, yet the country was ſo dull, that "ſometimes, if no one invited us out, we "did not know what to do with ourſelves; "and you are ſo good, and love us ſo well, "that now we are grown tall, we ſhall "have a great deal of pleaſure, and ſee "every thing worth ſeeing."

"And pray," replied Mr. Richardſon, "what are the objects *you* conſider as worth "ſeeing?"

"Bleſs me, papa, I can ſcarcely tell; "Mrs. Bennet uſed to talk of ſo many, "that I never thought of in mamma's life-"time; but fine ſhops, the park, the "play, the opera, the concert, and ball; "with a number of others that I have daily "heard of, and long to ſee."

"I am ſorry for it; and yet more "ſo, that the death of your excellent "mother, and my own commercial con-

"cerns, have forced me for a time, to "leave you in the care of a perſon that "has given you ſo erroneous an opinion "of pleaſure;—beſide, my dear, do you "conſider, theſe amuſements are very ex-"penſive, and it is the duty of a merchant "to be careful."

"Nay now, Sir, you joke," replied Charles; "for every body ſays you are "very rich, and ſuch trifles are nothing "to you."

"Thoſe who boaſted of my wealth to "you, Charles, were at once both weak "and wicked; for every perſon of com-"mon underſtanding knows, that nothing "is more precarious than the wealth of a "merchant, whoſe proſperity depends on "ſo many uncertain events, that if, after "years ſpent in anxious toil, he can retire "with an eaſy competency, he muſt con-"clude himſelf a fortunate man.—Your "information was, therefore, as I before "ſaid, wicked, or to give it a milder "name, weak, as it was calculated to "inſpire you with extravagance and pride,

"which

" which muſt make you ſuffer ſeverely " ſhould we ever experience a reverſe of " fortune.—My welfare depends both on " the weather, and the prudence of others; " for the loſs of a rich freighted veſſel, " or the failure of my principal corre- " ſpondents, might plunge me in ruin; " in which caſe, a good character, and " induſtry would be my only reſource."

This anſwer was made to humble the pride of Charles, and had the deſired effect, for he hung down his head in ſilence; but Mary, throwing her arms around her father's neck, exclaimed, " But ſuch mis- " fortunes will never happen, I hope, my " dear papa!"

" I hope not" returned he, " but " nothing in this mortal ſtate is certain; " and the utmoſt human prudence can ef- " fect is, to merit, in as ſmall a degree as " poſſible, the evils we neceſſarily meet " with:—for example, were I improperly " elated with the ſucceſs God has hitherto " granted me, or were my whole thoughts " devoted to pleaſure, and I afterwards

" became

" became unfortunate, ſhould I not, think
" you, be univerſally condemned, inſtead
" of pitied? and the world naturally ob-
" ſerve, when ſpeaking of me,—'He was
" an arrogant fellow, who treated every
" one that he thought poorer than himſelf
" with contempt: his whole thoughts
" were devoted to pleaſure and expence;
" and if you wanted him, inſtead of ſeek-
" ing him at home in his domeſtic duties,
" you muſt run to the play, the opera,
" ball, or concert. Such a man deſerves
" no compaſſion; for were he even rein-
" ſtated in his buſineſs, he would act the
" ſame; for a habit of diſſipation is diffi-
" cult to overcome.' Thus would it be
" ſaid of me, Mary, and ſhould I not me-
" rit it, think you?"

Mary was abaſhed, made no reply, and her father continued: " Now, let us con-
" ſider, my love, what would be my own
" reflections in this caſe.—I have been
" unfortunate, I ſhould ſay, but no diſſi-
" pation has eſcaped me; I have ſeen
" every thing that could amuſe either my

" eyes

" eyes or ears.—But what have I done
" worthy remembrance?—Alas, nothing!
" —I have not the ſatisfaction of con-
" templating one good or uſeful action;
" my habit of diſſipation formed a bad
" example for my dependents and do-
" meſtics; and my profuſion and expence
" have prevented me doing the leaſt ſer-
" vice to my fellow-creatures; ſo that no
" one has reaſon to lament my fall; nor
" have I claims of gratitude on any, to
" make them endeavour to reinſtate me."

" But no perſon will ever be able to ſay
" that of you, Sir," ſaid Charles.

" I hope not entirely," replied Mr. Richardſon; " but yet I feel that I am
" not clear from blame: the immoderate
" grief I ſuſtained for your dear mother's
" death, and the arrangement of my af-
" fairs, which in the intermediate time
" had fallen into confuſion, as all buſineſs
" muſt, in ſome meaſure, that a man does
" not ſuperintend himſelf, obliged me, for
" a time, to give up the care of you to
" Mrs. Bennet; who, perhaps, from a
" miſtaken

" miſtaken indulgence, and to divert pain-
" ful thought, has given riſe to ideas in
" your youthful boſoms, that make me
" ſeriouſly uneaſy.—Man, my dear chil-
" dren, was made for a nobler purpoſe
" than the frivolity of pleaſure, and he
" debaſes the image of his Creator when he
" conſiders it as the buſineſs of his life."

" Sure there is no harm in making our-
" ſelves happy and being amuſed, papa,"
replied Mary.

" Certainly not. If our pleaſures are
" rational, they are rather praiſeworthy
" than otherwiſe: perpetual buſineſs fa-
" tigues the mind, injures the health, and
" might finally endanger life; but min-
" gled with moderate recreation, becomes
" in its turn an amuſement, as it affords
" that diverſity ſo neceſſary to preſerve the
" energy of our tempers. Well-regulated
" pleaſures alſo leave behind them a ſatis-
" faction that renews them whenever we
" think on the ſubject."

" Nay now, papa," ſaid Mary, ſlyly,
" there indeed I *muſt* beg your pardon;

" they

" they rather leave behind them a regret
" that they are paſt; for when I was go-
" ing to any party of pleaſure with Mrs.
" Bennet, I was almoſt wild with delight;
" but when it was over, I was ſo ſorry, ſo
" fatigued, and ſo dull the next morn-
" ing, that ſhe uſed to promiſe to take me
" ſomewhere to put me in ſpirits again."

" Was not that a ſufficient proof, my
" dear girl, that your pleaſures were im-
" properly regulated?" replied her father.
" Whatever your amuſements were, had
" you returned at an early hour, you would
" neither have ſuffered fatigue nor depreſ-
" ſion of ſpirits, which are ever the conſe-
" quence of our natural hours of reſt be-
" ing broken upon.—The frivolities, too,
" you have expreſſed a wiſh to ſee, when
" once paſt afford no gratification, as you
" have truly obſerved, in the recollection;
" whereas, as I before ſaid, there are plea-
" ſures which diffuſe ſuch ſatisfaction on
" the remembrance, that they ſooth us in
" the hour of calamity, cheer the bed of
" ſickneſs, and blunt even the pangs of
" death."

" My

"My dear father, what are they?" interrupted Charles.

"Feed the poor, clothe the naked, and "aſſiſt the induſtrious to make thoſe ex- "ertions that may enable them to ſupport "themſelves, and, in all probability, help "others."

"But theſe are not pleaſures, Sir," interrupted Charles, "theſe are duties." "I by no means think it impoſſible," anſwered his father, "to blend our duties "and pleaſures, ſo as to make them inſe- "parable; for example, it is my duty to "ſupport and love you; but duty alone "does not influence me; your welfare and "happineſs is my greateſt pleaſure; thus "you ſee my pleaſure and duty are blend- "ed in one."

The children claſped each a hand of their father, and he continued.—"For a "moment we will ſuppoſe the money you "wiſh expended to amuſe you in trifles, "collected and in your own power, and "that you had uſed it in feeding and "clothing a poor family, who were periſh-

"ing

" ing with want and cold ;—would you feel
" no pleaſure in contemplating your work ?
" would you not reflect that in all proba-
" bility you had preſerved them from
" death, or which is worſe, from ſhame ;
" for may not diſtreſs ſometimes force peo-
" ple to do actions at which their hearts
" would recoil, had they the bare means
" of exiſtence ?"

" Indeed, papa," ſaid Mary, " as you
" repreſent it, it would be pleaſure, for
" you cannot think how happy I ſhould
" be to ſee little girls that I had fed and
" clothed ; I ſhould be ſo proud of them,
" ſhew them to every body, and make
" them ſo ſmart !"

" There again you would err," inter-
" rupted Mr. Richardſon, " it is not mak-
" ing them ſmart, it is making them de-
" cent, clean, comfortable, and warm, that
" is neceſſary.—To make them what you
" call ſmart, would be in weak minds in-
" ſpiring thoughts that might prove inju-
" rious ; for they ought to be taught to be
" uſeful members to ſociety, which fine-

" ry can never make them.—You alſo ſay
" you ſhould be proud of them.—Pride,
" my love, would deſtroy the whole merit of
" your work; and to tell your good deeds,
" muſt argue a very weak mind; nay, do
" you not recollect the immediate words of
" our Bleſſed Saviour—*Take heed that you*
" *do not your alms before men to be ſeen of*
" *them: otherwiſe you have no reward of*
" *your Father which is in Heaven.*"

This diſcourſe brought them to the inn at Salt Hill, where Mr. Richardſon ordered dinner.

CHAP. II.

Story of the little Muſicians.

THE dinner was ſcarcely concluded when the ſound of a flagelet, accompanied by an "infantile voice ſinging the *Children in the Wood*, attracted both Charles and Mary's attention; and jumping up, they ran to the window to ſee the performers.

"What decent-looking children!" exclaimed Charles: "look at them, my dear "Sir; I do not think they are much older "than Mary and I."

"They are indeed young," replied Mr. Richardſon, "and their parents, if they "have any, very blameable to ſuffer them "to lead ſo vagabond a life, as they are "both of an age to be rendered ſerviceable "in ſome way or other."

"Poor things," replied Mary, "perhaps "they are orphans; I have half a crown "in my pocket, may I not ſend it down "to them?"

"If they are friendleſs," replied Mr. Richardſon, "half a crown will be but of "little ſervice to them; or if they lead "this life from a love of idleneſs, it is "wrong to encourage it; but as you both "appear intereſted, ſuppoſe we ſend for "them in and queſtion them."

The children expreſſed their thanks, and Mr. Richardſon ringing the bell, deſired the waiter to ſend up the itinerant muſicians.

The waiter preſently returned, introducing them; but the girl ſhrank back, while the boy, holding her hand, modeſtly advanced, ſaying, in a country dialect and low voice, "Don't be *afraid*, Patty, though "they be gentry, they look *main* good-"natured."

"You play on the flageolet and ſing," ſaid Mr. Richardſon; "give us a ſpecimen "of what you can perform."

The children heſitated for a moment, but Mr. Richardſon repeating his requeſt with a ſmile, the boy made a bow, and obeyed; firſt ſaying,—"We *ben't* uſed to "come before ſuch gentry as your honour,

"and

" and Patty's ſhame-faced, but I hope you " will excuſe it ?"

He then began to play on his ruſtic flagelet, which his ſiſter accompanied with her voice.

" Very well," ſaid Mr. Richardſon; " but pray, young man, what age are you, " and where did you learn to play ?"

" I am thirteen," returned the boy, bowing, " and *ſiſter's* ten, an pleaſe you. I " learned to play from my father, who, " when his work was done, uſed to play " a few tunes to my mother, who ſate " ſpinning and ſinging to him, as *ſiſter* " now does to me."

" And where do your parents live ?"

The girl turned aſide, and holding a corner of her little checked apron to her eyes, remained ſilent.

" They are both dead and buried, half " a year back," replied the boy, with a " ſigh ;—" and having no friends, we are " obliged to go from houſe to houſe to " play and ſing, for a bit of bread, or a " penny, which the farmers wives, God

" bleſs them, very readily give us, and lets " us ſleep in their barns; which I think " *main* kind, and makes me very thankful " on Patty's account, becauſe my mother " uſed to be careful of *ſhe*, becauſe ſhe was " ſickly."

" From what part do you come?"

The boy heſitated.

" If you are honeſt you need not fear " to declare the truth, which if you do, " we may aſſiſt you."

" Indeed, Sir," anſwered the boy, " I " don't fear to tell the truth on my own " account, but on poor Patty's, whom I " could not bear to leave; beſides, my " mother not a minute before ſhe died, " as we both kiſſed her cheeks, that were " even then as cold as any ſtone, deſired " me to remember, that as I was the oldeſt " and ſtrongeſt, I muſt do all I could " for *ſhe*."

" Well, tell me," ſaid Mr. Richardſon, " what your father was, where he " lived, and how long you have gained a " livelihood in this manner? Again I bid

" you

" you ſpeak without fear; I may aſſiſt,
" but will not injure you."

The boy, thus aſſured, aſſumed more courage—" God bleſs you, Sir," ſaid he, " I will tell you the whole truth, for " though we did run away we *be* honeſt. " —My father was a weaver, and lived " within a mile of Warwick, and made " ſhift to maintain us very decently till the " war broke out, when buſineſs got ſo " ſlack that we began to grow very poor, " and inſtead of boiling the great pot twice " a-week, we ſometimes could not afford " to put it on for a whole month; how- " ever, my father ſtruggled all he could, " and my mother ſpun, and uſed to tell " him to keep up his ſpirits, for when " things were at the worſt they muſt mend. " —But all would not do; my father, " from a fat likely man, grew quite thin " and yellow with fretting; and at laſt got " ſuch a bad cough, that people ſaid he " was in a galloping conſumption. In this " diſtreſs our landlord ſeized for half a " year's rent, which my father could by no

" means

" means raiſe; ſo, Sir, our goods were " ſold, and we were all forced to go to the " pariſh. I am ſure I ſhall never forget " that day as long as I live: my father " had then got ſo weak that he could not " walk without help, ſo my mother took " one arm and I the other, while my ſiſter " held by her apron crying; our old dog " Shock, that my father had from a puppy, " following after us. When we came to " the workhouſe they took us all in but " Shock, who was ſhut on the outſide; " where he ſtood whining ſo as to have " made any body's heart ach, but a pariſh " officer.

" My poor father died in four days, " praying for us with his laſt breath; and " was buried the next morning but one " by the pariſh. My mother had been ill " ever ſince the ſecond day after ſhe came " into the workhouſe, though ſhe tried to " hide it; but ſhe got ſo bad after his " death, that ſhe could not go to the bury- " ing, and Patty and I went alone, crying " ſo bitterly that we never ſaw poor Shock

" follow-

" following us; for he had lain about the
" workhouſe ever ſince we went in. Oh,
" Sir, I thought my heart would have burſt
" when they let my father's coffin down
" into the grave; Patty ſcreamed and called
" on her daddy, the dog howled, the ſex-
" ton ſcolded; till at laſt the men that had
" carried the coffin kicked the dog, and
" drove us both back to the workhouſe.

" When we returned the doctor had been
" to ſee the poor folks, and ſaid *how* my
" mother had got a fever; ſo, Sir, ſhe got
" worſe and worſe, for three or four
" days, and then ſhe ſaid ſhe ſhould die,
" and talked a great deal to Patty and me,
" whenever ſhe was a moment free from
" being light-headed; and ſhe gave me
" my father's flageiet to keep for his ſake,
" for it happened by chance to be in his
" pocket;—then bid me to be honeſt and
" ſober, or ſhe ſhould not reſt in her
" grave;—to learn to labour, and to love
" my ſiſter, and God would bleſs us: for
" he loved the poor, and was the father of
" orphans.---Don't cry, Patty"---ſaid he,

inter-

interrupting his ſtory to comfort his ſiſter ---" don't cry; it's rude before gentry," ---the big tears falling from his own eyes on his tattered waiſtcoat, and, for a moment, choaked his utterance.---" I beg par-
" don, Sir," reſumed he, " but *ſiſter* al-
" ways will cry when we talk about *mother*.
" ---So, Sir, ſhe told Patty to be a good
" girl, or ſhe would never proſper, but
" die upon a dunghill.---God knows, I
" could not help thinking when ſhe ſaid
" ſo, that ſhe ought to have been better
" off; for I am ſure ſhe was good, and
" always ſaid her prayers night and morn-
" ing; then, while we had it, ſhe never
" ſent beggars away with empty bellies.---
" But I remember ſhe uſed to ſay, the
" ſmaller the reward in this world, the
" greater in the next; and that God had
" a right to diſpoſe of his creatures as he
" thought beſt.---She then, Sir, gave her
" prayer-book to Patty, and bid her not
" forget her reading; and talked to us
" till ſhe was ſo weak ſhe could not talk
" any longer.

" The

"The next day, juſt before ſhe died, "ſhe made us come cloſe to her, and put- "ting one of her poor cold arms round "each of our necks, raiſed her eyes,---pray- "ed,---ſighed,---bleſſed us,---and---and ſo, "Sir ſhe ſpoke no more."---The boy's voice became inarticulate; the girl ſobbed aloud, Charles began mechanically to ſtir the fire, and Mary to twiſt the corners of her handkerchief, while her tears flowed faſt and fell upon her boſom.

Mr. Richardſon contemplated the whole party with ſatisfaction.---"Ah!" ſaid he, mentally, as he looked on his children, "may it be in my power to cheriſh, and "bring to perfection, thoſe dawnings of hu- "mnity; may they never be ſtifled by the "errors of a corrupt education, nor over- "whelmed in the labyrinths of depravity "and folly they muſt neceſſarily meet in "their journey through life."---

After a ſhort pauſe, the boy wiped his eyes and continued:---"So, Sir, in one "week we loſt both father and mother; "and the ſecond day after her burial we "were

" were taken before the pariſh-officers to
" ſee what could be done with us. After
" ſome conſideration, they ſaid I ſhould
" be ſent to ſea, and poor Patty, who was
" not ten years old, put *prentice* to the
" very man who ſeized our father's goods,
" and kept a pot-houſe.---Patty cried, and
" I cried to ſee her cry; not that I diſ-
" liked going to ſea, but I could not bear
" to leave her in ſuch a ſervice, and with
" a maſter that I had ſeen myſelf beat his
" *prentices* worſe than dogs.---Well, Sir,
" the overſeers ſcolded us, and ſaid we
" ſhould be bound the next week, when
" I was to be ſent off directly to go on
" ſhip-board. Patty cried ſadly all the
" evening, and ſaid, that when I was gone
" ſhe ſhould have no friend left. I wiſhed
" to ſee the world, but could not tell what
" to do on her account; until at laſt it
" came into my head, that as it would ſoon
" be hay-harveſt, I might get employment
" for the whole ſummer, if we were but
" once out of the reach of the pariſh.
" Next day I told Patty what I had been
" thinking

" thinking of, and ſhe was greatly delight-
" ed, and we agreed to run away that very
" night, while the people were at ſupper,
" which we accordingly did; ſaving our
" ſhares, and taking nothing with us but
" my father's flagelet, and my mother's
" prayer-book.

" It was a fine moonlight night, and we
" got out eaſy enough, and went for the
" laſt time, to take leave of our good pa-
" rents grave: but, Sir, who ſhould be
" laying on the ſod, but our dog Shock,
" as thin as a ſkeleton; the poor beaſt got
" up on ſeeing us, wagged his tail, then
" ſcratched on the grave, and gave a diſ-
" mal whine.—Indeed, Sir, it made both
" Patty and I cry afreſh; however, we
" knelt down, and ſaid our prayers, beg-
" ging of God to guide and forgive us if
" we had done amiſs. I then looked about
" and found a piece of a broken grave-
" ſtone, which I ſtuck in the ground, that
" if ever we came back we might know
" the ſpot. Our poor dog, who was al-
" moſt ſtarved, we next fed with ſome of

" the bred and cheeſe, and then ſet off as " faſt as our legs could carry us; Shock " leaping before, as if he was glad we " were met again. We walked all night, " for fear of being caught, and the next " morning found ourſelves nine miles from " Warwick, when Patty was ſo tired, ſhe " could go no farther; ſo I begged of a " man who was working in a barn, to let " us reſt on the ſtraw for an hour or two, " which he gave us leave to do; firſt aſk- " ing what we were, and from whence we " came? I anſwered him truly, that we " came from Warwick, and were deſtitute " orphans, but did not ſay we run away, " for fear of being ſent back.

" We were ſo tired that we ſlept late, " without once waking; which, when we " did, we were very hungry; and were juſt " going out of the barn, when we met the " farmer.—' Why,' ſaid he, ' 'tis too late " to go on to-night, ſo you had better lie " in the barn, and ſet off early; and I ſup- " poſe, though you are tight clothed, you " are not overſtocked with money, ſo come

" with

" with me and get ſome ſupper.'—Well,
" Sir, we ſlept there that night, and, in
" the morning, when we ſet off, the far-
" mer's wife, who was as kind as himſelf,
" gave us a great lump of cheeſe, half a
" big loaf, and ſome old ſtockings, a
" ſhirt, and a ſhift and apron.—God bleſs
" her; and if ever her children want it, I
" hope they will meet with as good a
" friend. We wandered on all day, and
" at night began to think we were pretty
" ſecure from the pariſh-officers; and hav-
" ing refreſhed ourſelves, I began to play
" on my flagelet, when two or three threſh-
" ers came up and gave us a penny. This,
" Sir, firſt put it into my head to play for
" money, which I began the next day;
" ſaying, that we were orphan-children,
" and had nothing elſe to truſt to until
" the harveſt, when I would work *a-field*.
" Thus, Sir, we got on till hay-time, when
" I was lucky enough to find work for
" the whole ſummer, and Patty uſed to
" run of errands for the reapers; ſo-that
" we did very well indeed, until about ſix

" weeks ago, when there being no work " to be got, I was obliged to take my " flagelet again; however, I hope ſoon, as " I am ſtout and hearty, to be able to " maintain Patty without running a-beg- " ging; for I don't care, and pleaſe you, " how hard I work, ſo I can but get an " honeſt living, as my mother deſired me. " Now, Sir, I have told the whole truth, " and I hope you will be kind enough not " to make us be ſent back; for I am ſure " it would kill poor Patty to be put *pren-* " *tice* to that wicked man that ſold my fa- " ther's goods."

" Though you have acted very errone- " ouſly in running away," returned Mr. Richardſon, " I will not falſify the confi- " dence you have repoſed in me. Your " affection for your ſiſter, is praiſe worthy; " but, as *you* have exerted it, ſo highly " imprudent, that it might have plunged " you both in ruin;---but tell me, have " you now any ſettled deſtination?"

' I have lately heard, Sir, that there was " ſome little work ſtirring in the villages

" round

" round London, and ſo, as faſt as Patty
" could walk, reſolved to go there; be-
" ſide, another thing made me wiſh it: I
" was told, by the ſervant of a gentlewo-
" man that once relieved us, that there
" was a number of ladies near town, who
" had eſtabliſhed ſchools for poor chil-
" dren, and had them clothed, fed, and
" taught; nay, that they did not even
" ſcorn to look to their improvement them-
" ſelves;---ſo I thought that God might
" lead us to ſome of theſe, who would even
" condeſcend to help my poor ſiſter; for
" my heart bleeds for her when I think of
" the long winter before us."

" It is true," replied Mr. Richardſon,
" that ſuch women have lately ſtepped
" forth, to the honour of their ſex; mi-
" niſtering, like beings of a ſuperior order,
" to the wants of helpleſs childhood; but
" to theſe, ſome recommendation, or ac-
" count of your paſt conduct, would be
" neceſſary."

" Ah, Sir," returned the boy, ſorrow-
fully, " I did not conſider my deſerving;
" I only thought of their goodness."

"Well, we will ſpeak more of this pre-
"ſently; but tell me, Patty, have you
"preſerved your mother's prayer-book?"

"Yes, an't pleaſe you," dropping a ſhort curtſey; and drawing it out of her pocket, wrapped firſt in a bit of white rag, and then in a paper; "here it is, Sir."

Mr. Richardſon, took the book, and opening it, found written, in a decent hand, the date of their parents marriage; likewiſe the time of the children's birth and their names,---Francis and Martha Williams.

"Whoſe writing is this?" ſaid he.

"My father's, Sir," returned the boy; "I can write a little myſelf; I learned be-
"fore his death; but perhaps I may al-
"moſt have forgotten it, for I have had
"no pens or paper ſince."

"Well, Patty, ſaid Mr. Richardſon, returning the book, "you have acted pro-
"perly in taking care of your mother's
"legacy;---for the preſent go down and
"ſit by the kitchen-fire; I will order you
"ſome dinner, and if your dog Shock is

"ſtill

" ſtill with you, pray let him be of the " party."

" Thank-you, thank-you, Sir," cried both, with great pleaſure; " Shock is ſure " enough with us, and now waiting at the " door."

" Well, call him in, and let him be fed," ſaid Mr. Richardſon;---" I will ſee you " again after dinner." He then rang the bell, and gave them to the care of the waiter.

CHAP. III.

The Satisfaction attending various Actions.

On the departure of the children, both Charles and Mary expected their father to speak; but he remained silent, until Mary, whose heart, as well as eyes, was full, at length said, "Poor things; what will be-
"come of them! I wonder they have not
"died of hunger before this, and the wea-
"ther now is growing very cold."

"Why, I really, Mary," replied Mr. Richardson, "I don't think them impostors,
"though they certainly acted very wrong
"in running away, and unbecoming the
"religious education they appear to have
"received from their parents, which ought
"to have taught them to depend more on
"the goodness of God. However, as you
"proposed, I would have you give them
"half a crown; it will support them, with
"care, for a few days: to be sure we may
"expect the weather to be very severe
"shortly

" ſhortly, for the air is froſty, and the next " month, November, is uſually very tem- " peſtuous; in which caſe I know not " what will become of them, for barns and " ſheds afford but poor ſhelter againſt the " inclemency of the weather."

" Oh dear!" cried Mary, " half a crown " won't do much ſervice; for when that is " gone, they muſt periſh."

" I wiſh we had not ſo fooliſhly ſpent " our Michaelmas quarter's allowance," replied Charles; " mine all went for bats, " balls, kites, and tops; yours to ſee rarée- " ſhows, dancing-dogs, wax-work, and " monkeys; things that can do neither " of us the leaſt good; whereas, if we had " it now, it would ſupport theſe poor " children through all the bad weather."

" I wiſh the man had not brought ſuch " fooliſh things to Reading," replied Mary, " or that Mrs. Bennet had refuſed " to let me go to ſee them; but 'tis of no " uſe to wiſh now; if I knew where to find " theſe poor things at Chriſtmas, I would " ſend them every farthing."

" Extra-

"Extravagance frequently throws us "into unpleaſant circumſtances," ſaid Mr. Richardſon, coldly.

"I feel it, Sir," replied Charles, "and "cannot help, for a moment, placing my-"ſelf in the ſituation of that poor boy, "and thinking what I ſhould feel to ſee my "dear Mary ſuffer like his ſiſter."

"The miſeries to which they are expoſed "are indeed dreadful," anſwered Mr. Richardſon, "and cold and hunger among "the leaſt; at preſent they appear inno-"cent; but may not the companions "they muſt neceſſarily meet with in their "peregrinations, ſuch as gypſies and other "vagabonds, work on their poverty and "inexperience, and corrupt their hearts, "though naturally honeſt, until by degrees "they convert them to midnight robbers, "and barbarous aſſaſſins?"

"Merciful goodneſs! how horrible!" cried Mary. "I wiſh, with all my heart, "I was a woman."

"What then, my dear girl?" returned Mr.

Mr. Richardſon, in a voice of cheerful kindneſs.

" Why then, Sir, I would ſhelter them " from danger; they ſhould never wan- " der again."

" Heaven forbid you ſhould be pre- " vented in ſo praiſe-worthy a reſolve. We " will inquire more particularly into their " ſtory, and if we find they have ſpoken " truth, I will advance to you, Charles, a " ſum ſufficient to apprentice the boy to " ſome trade by which he may gain a liv- " ing; and for the girl, Mary ſhall place " her at the village-ſchool, near our coun- " try-houſe, where they may occaſionally " ſuperintend her improvement, until ſhe " can be rendered uſeful in the family; " and you will both have the pleaſure of " contemplating, that, in all probability, " you have preſerved to ſociety two worthy " members, who, but for your interfe- " rence, might have proved a ſcourge to " their fellows, and a diſgrace to human " nature"

" What

"What an enchanting thought!" ex-
"claimed Charles; "but for you, my
"dear, Sir, we ſhould not have enjoyed it;
"for though they intereſted me at the mo-
"ment, I ſhould ſoon have forgotten them."

"And had it not been for you, papa," ſaid Mary, "I ſhould have ſent them half
"a crown, and thought myſelf very ge-
"nerous, when in reality it would have
"done them no eſſential ſervice; while, as
"you have ſettled it, they are ſafe from
"danger; and if they are good, we ſhall
"have the pleaſure of thinking that we
"have contributed towards making them
"ſo—Ah, if you had not queſtioned them,
"we ſhould not have enjoyed this ſatisfac-
"tion."

"A falſe pride, my dear children, fre-
"quently deprives us of the higheſt enjoy-
"ments; how erroneouſly do they judge,
"who live only to gratify their own ca-
"price; the ſunſhine of their benevolence
"never extending farther than the ſhadow
"of their own perſons.—But it grows late;

"we

" we will diſpoſe of your new charge, and " purſue our journey."

Mr. Richardſon ordered the children to be ſent up; when he informed them of the determination in their favour, and received in return every acknowledgment which the grateful ſimplicity of their hearts could ſuggeſt.

He then gave them in charge to the waiter, deſiring him to ſend them by the firſt conveyance that paſſed towards Acton, where he had lately hired a ſmall houſe to retire occaſionally with his children.

CHAP. IV.

Laudable Curiosity.—Arrival in London.

MR. Richardſon proceeded no farther that night than his little villa at Acton, where, the enſuing morning early, Charles and Mary had the ſatisfaction of ſeeing their new dependants arrive; and, in a few hours, by the ſkill of the good old houſekeeper, ſo metamorphoſed, that they were ſcarcely to be recognized.—Charles could not ceaſe obſerving that he ſhould never have thought his old coat could have been altered to fit Frank ſo well; and Mary was never weary of admiring Patty; who dreſſed in a neat brown gown, ſtraw hat, and white tippet, charmed her ſo highly, that ſhe jumped round her in rapture, exclaiming, "Mind, "Patty, you are my own, own girl! What "a good father is mine, to let me have "you! Ah, I hope I ſhall never offend "him as long as I live!"

If the pleaſure of Charles and Mary was great

great, yet it may be judged that it was more than equalled by the ſatisfaction of Frank and Patty, who, having experienced wretchedneſs, cold, and hunger, were fully ſenſible of the comforts of a good fire, food, and cloathing,—bleſſings that many ungrateful beings enjoy without thankfulneſs, or conſidering that all benefits are the gift of God, and that as he has power to beſtow, ſo has he alſo power to deprive us of them.

Mr. Richardſon, whoſe mercantile concerns seldom ſuffered him to be long abſent from London, left Acton the next afternoon, and returned to his town-houſe in Finſbury-ſquare; during the way thither he pointed out to his children whatever he thought could amuſe or inſtruct them, giving them an account of any thing remarkable that had happened in the places they paſſed through.

"My dear Sir," ſaid Charles, "I have "often wiſhed to ſee whatever was curious "in the metropolis, and to learn the riſe "of ſome of the moſt remarkable build-"ings; if it be not intruding too much

" on your goodneſs, perhaps ſome time " you may gratify us ſo far."

" Willingly," returned Mr. Richardſon; " it is a laudable curioſity, and we will de- " vote our leiſure hours to that purpoſe " this winter; and the enſuing ſummer if " all goes well, we will extend our rambles " into the country."

At this moment they paſſed the turnpike, and entered Piccadilly, which Charles obſerving was a very wide and populous ſtreet, his father replied, " It is indeed ſo now, " Charles, but ſome years back it was little " better than waſte land, and firſt built upon " by one Higgins a taylor, who had accu- " mulated a good fortune by making ſtiff " collars, then much in faſhion, and called " Piccadilla's; from which he named the " ſtreet."

As the night drew on, few comments more paſſed during the way home, where Mary found, on her arrival, a diſcreet ſenſible woman engaged as her governeſs; and Charles, proper maſters to come daily to inſtruct him.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

A Walk to the Tower of London.---Account of its Extent.—The firſt Perſon beheaded there.—Lawles Actions.---Speech of Sir Gervis Elways.---On the Courage of Lions.—Remarkable Perſons interred in the Chapel.—The neceſſity of reading the Hiſtory of our own Country.

EARLY the next morning the children attended their father at breakfaſt, after which they found every hour, until dinner, devoted to ſtudy; a circumſtance that was not very pleaſing to either; but particularly to Mary, who having led a life of idleneſs during the laſt twelve months found all reſtraint extremely irkſome.—Both, however, performed their leſſons with great good humour, and a favourable account being given to Mr. Richardſon, he declared, that as he was unem-

ployed that afternoon, they would devote it to one of the rambles Charles had expreſſed a wiſh for, "as that will," added he, "not only amuſe, but, at the ſame "time, inſtruct us."---Charles expreſſed his thanks, and both waited with impatience until their father was ready; and the weather being clear and dry, all preferred walking to the uſe of the carriage. "And now, Charles," ſaid Mr. Richardſon, "you ſhall dictate the purſuits of this "day; Mary and I will fix the next "walk."

"Then, Sir," replied he, "I have long "wiſhed to ſee the Tower; will you fa-"vour me by taking us there?"

"With all my heart; but as this is "your firſt wiſh, you, doubtleſs, are in-"formed, by reading of every hiſtoric "circumſtance reſpecting it. Will you "oblige me by relating a few; it will "entertain us as we go along."

"It was firſt built, I think, Sir, by "William the Conqueror; but many al-"terations and additions have taken place

"in

" in the reigns of the ſucceeding kings: " it is a place of defence, and a repoſitory " for arms, the crown-jewels, curioſities, " wild beaſts, and many other things " that I cannot enumerate."

" Is that all?" interrupted Mary. " I " don't think I ſhall like it at all; for " there is nothing to amuſe one in old " guns, or ugly beaſts."

Mr. Richardſon ſmiled; but replied to his ſon, " You have forgotten to inform " me of the width of the ditch that " ſurrounds it; the compaſs on the out- " ſide, or that within the walls."

" I do not recollect it, Sir," anſwered he, " but will read with more attention in " future."

" You will do well," replied his father. " The compaſs, on the outſide the " ditch, is one thouſand and fifty-two " feet; the ground comprehended within " the walls and ditch, twelve acres and " five roods; it was firſt incloſed by William Longchamps, Biſhop of Ely, in the " reign of Richard I. That haughty pre-

" late, having a quarrel with John, third " brother of Richard, under pretence of " guarding againſt his deſigns, ſurrounded " the whole with imbattled walls, and " made on the outſide a vaſt ditch; " into which, at aftertimes, the Thames " water was introduced.—You alſo forgot " that it is a ſtate-priſon, and has been " the ſcene of much bloodſhed."

" I had not forgotten that, Sir, though " I do not remember particulars."

" Nor do I entirely," anſwered his father; " but the firſt perſon, if I miſtake " not, who ſuffered there by the axe, " that is, beheading, was Sir Simon de " Burley, the moſt accompliſhed man of " his time, and tutor to Richard the " Second. Since that period the executions " have been innumerable; or to ſpeak " more properly, too many for me to re- " member; though I ſhall recollect anec- " dotes of ſeveral, on viewing the chapel."

" Yes, papa," ſaid Mary " and I re- " member reading, a long time ago, that " many

" many people had been killed within the " Tower."

" True, my love, even ſeveral known " murders have diſgraced this ancient " fortreſs: Henry the Sixth fell by the " dagger of the aſſaſſin Glouceſter, after- " wards Richard the Third, there alſo " died by hired ruffians, his brother " Clarence, and the young innocents " Edward the Fifth, and his brother the " Duke of York, victims of their re- " morſeleſs uncle Richard.—In the reign " of James the Firſt, Sir Thomas Over- " bury was poiſoned there; whoſe mur- " derers, at leaſt the principals, eſcaped " with life, though their wretched inſtru- " ments met their deſerved puniſhment; " and among whom was Sir Gervis " Elways, lieutenant of the Tower, who " was hanged near the ſpot for being " concerned in this abominable action.--- " Nor muſt I neglect to tell you, that " at his death he made a ſolemn admo- " nition to the ſpectators, counſeling " them againſt appealing to Heaven by

" idle

" idle or raſh vows; for having, as he " ſaid, been greatly addicted to gaming, " he had ſeriouſly ſaid, in his prayers, " *Lord, let me be hanged if ever I play more*; " and yet he perpetually broke it. Thus, " my children, he felt that his life was a " deſerved forfeit to the violated laws of " God and man; and that he had pecu- " liarly called it on himſelf."

This diſcourſe brought them to Tower-hill; where having walked ſome time they entered the fortreſs. Charles's attention was greatly attracted by the weapons placed in the armory in different forms, and Mary was equally pleaſed with the ſplendour of the crown-jewels; but nothing intereſted either ſo much as the lions, which Charles obſerved, that he had read were the moſt noble and courageous of all animals, and that he now truly believed it from their appearance.

" They may perhaps be ſo, Charles," replied his father, " in their natural ſtate, " but in the captivity in which they are " here immured, their real character is " deſtroyed,

" deſtroyed, and I have heard they become
" inactive and even puſillanimous; but
" this I ſpeak from report, not from my
" own obſervations, though I ſhould be
" apt to believe it true; for inactivity and
" confinement will, in time, deſtroy the
" brighteſt endowments both of body and
" mind; a truth I have too frequently ſeen
" verified.—But in reſpect to theſe animals,
" I have read an account of King James
" the Firſt and Lord Lenox, with ſeveral
" other noblemen, going to the Tower and
" cauſing a male and female lion to be
" taken from their dens, and a live cock
" to be thrown to them which they pre-
" ſently killed.---The King then ordered
" a lamb to be turned to them, but this
" they did not touch, although it walked
" cloſe up to them.----The King then
" ordered theſe lions away, and another
" to be put in their place, to which he
" cauſed two maſtiffs to be turned in.
" The dogs preſently flew on the lion,
" and threw him on his back; who, though
" undoubtedly ſuperior to them in ſtrength,

" was

" was decidedly, in this caſe, inferior to " them in courage.---In this reign there " were more experiments tried of the " ſame kind; but ſtories of wanton cru- " elty can neither be pleaſant for you to " hear nor me to relate."

" But, papa," ſaid Mary, " it was ge- " nerous of the lions not to hurt the lamb; " but I have heard that they only attack " ſuch as are capable of defence."

" I much doubt the truth of that," replied her father; " here they are regularly " fed, and uſe no exerciſe; they have " therefore not thoſe motives to excite " them to attack as in foreſts, where they " roam about rendered doubly ferocious " by hunger, and in which caſe I cannot " ſuppoſe they would ſpare any beaſt that " fell in their way: nay, ſo ſenſible are the " weaker animals of their danger, that, in " their native woods, all flee at the roaring " of the lion."

The keeper, who had been obſervant to Mr. Richardſon's diſcourſe, ſaid, " I will " tell

" tell the young gentleman and lady a " circumſtance that happened here ſome " years ago, if you will give me leave Sir." Mr. Richardſon anſwering, that he ſhould be obliged to him, the Keeper gave them the following relation:

" In one of theſe dens, we had an old lion " called *Dunco*, he was remarkable for his " tameneſs and attachment to the man who " fed him, but very ferocious to ſtrangers. " The wood-work of his den being impair- " ed, he could not be kept with ſafety; a " carpenter was therefore employed to re- " pair it; but the man refuſed to engage " in the buſineſs till the keeper ſtepped " into the den, and agreed to keep Dunco " at the upper part of his houſe, while the " Carpenter was at work beneath. The " Keeper, after playing ſome time with " the lion, fell aſleep, and the Carpenter " continued his work without knowing to " what danger he was expoſed. At length " having compleated his job, he called to " the Keeper to come down and faſten the

" door, but receiving no anſwer, he cau-
" tiouſly peeped through the grate, and
" to his infinite ſurpriſe ſaw the Keeper
" and the lion ſtretched upon the floor, and
" ſleeping together. The Carpenter called
" the man by his name, but he was too
" ſound aſleep to anſwer; the lion, however,
" reared up his great head, looked at the
" Carpenter, and throwing his great paw
" over the Keeper's breaſt, again com-
" poſed himſelf to ſleep. The Carpenter
" terrified, ran into the houſe, when ſome
" of the people came out, and having firſt
" ſecured the door, which, in his fright, the
" carpenter had neglected, they rouſed the
" man, who expreſſed no terror at his
" ſituation, but ſhook the lion by the paw
" before they ſeparated; a compliment
" that Dunco returned by rubbing his
" noſe againſt him, and attending him to
" the door of the den."

Mr. Richardſon, having requited the man, deſired to be ſhewn the chapel; where, ſeating himſelf, he ſaid, " This chapel is " not only the repoſitory of many good

" people

" people, who died in their quiet beds,
" and whoſe monuments you ſee around you;
" but alſo the undiſtinguiſhed receptacle
" of ſeveral who were beheaded within the
" fortreſs, or on the adjacent hill.---Here
" was finally removed the body of the
" conſcientious Fiſher, Biſhop of Rocheſter,
" who fell a victim to his opinion of
" the Pope's ſupremacy, and the trea-
" chery of the Attorney-general, Rich,
" who obtained his confidence and be-
" trayed him.—The Pope rewarded his
" orthodoxy with a Cardinal's hat; but it
" did not arrive until the poor biſhop's head
" was on a pole on London-bridge.—His
" headleſs corpſe was moved to be near
" that of his friend the great Sir Thomas
" More, who ſuffered three weeks after
" in the ſame cauſe. But his body did not
" long continue here, nor his head on
" the bridge; for his daughter, Margaret
" Roper, by unwearied aſſiduity, procured
" the one to be removed to Chelſea, and
" the head, accidentally blown into the
" Thames, to be given to her. She kept

" it during her life as a relic, and directed " that, after her death, it ſhould be lodged " in her arms and buried with her.

" Here reſts, after her ſhort dream of " worldly grandeur, the beautious Anna " Bullen, ſecond wife to Henry the Eighth, " who loſt her life on a fictitious charge of " unchaſtity, on the 19th of May, 1536. " Near her lies interred her innocent bro- " ther Lord Rochford; who was involved " in the ſame accuſation, and beheaded " two days before her. Not far from theſe, " in the ſame grave, lie the profligate " Lady Catherine Howard, fifth wife of " Henry, and her infamous aſſociate the " Lady Rochford, who was beheaded with " her, and died unlamented; as her accu- " ſation had plunged her huſband and " ſiſter-in-law into an untimely grave.--- " Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Eſſex, the " great promoter of the ſuppreſſion of " religious houſes, was alſo beheaded in " the ſame reign, and buried here: his ac- " cuſation was being a favourer of he- " retics.

" In

" In the next reign, (Edward the Sixth,) " Thomas Seymour, the Lord-high admi- " ral, was beheaded, by a warrant from " his own brother the Protector Somer- " ſet, and buried in this chapel: three " years after, the Protector himſelf " aſcended the ſame ſcaffold, and was flung " into the common grave, as was alſo the " inſtrument of his fall, John Dudley, " Duke of Northumberland, the year fol- " lowing, in the reign of Mary. So tran- " ſitory are the fallacious dreams of great- " neſs, pomp, and ambition.

" In the reign of Elizabeth, Robert " Devereux Earl of Eſſex was beheaded; " after, as it was ſaid, the Queen had un- " dergone a long ſtruggle between fear and " affection.

" Beneath the communion-table, if I " recollect aright, repoſes the Duke of " Monmouth, ſon of Charles the Second, " and accounted the moſt handſome man of " his time; he loſt his life in the reign of " James the Second.

" In this chapel are alſo the bodies of " the Earl of Kilmarnock and Lord Balme- " rino incloſed in leaden coffins, and who " ſuffered for rebellion in the year 1746; " as did alſo the following year, Simon " Lord Lovat, who was interred in the " ſame ground."

The obſervations concluded here, and Mr. Richardſon retook the way home-ward with his children, who were greatly pleaſed with their afternoon's ramble.

" My dear papa," ſaid Mary, as they " walked along, " though I have been " greatly amuſed with what I have ſeen, " and intereſted with what you have told " us, yet I ſhould like to know every par- " ticular reſpecting thoſe remarkable cha- " racters; will you not favour us by relat- " ing ſomething more concerning them?"

" The taſk would be too arduous for me, Mary; therefore I muſt refer you to " the Hiſtory of England, which will in- " form you fully of theſe events; and let " me tell you, that a man or woman that is " unac-

" unacquainted with the hiſtory of their " own country, makes a very humiliating " appearance in a company where the ſub- " ject may chance to be diſcuſſed? I would " therefore have you begin as ſpeedily as " poſſible, in order to remove that incon- " venience."

" My dear Sir," replied Charles, " with " your leave I will take it from your li- " brary to-morrow morning; I was ac- " cuſtomed to read it to my mother, but " have totally neglected it ſince."

" You will do well," anſwered Mr. " Richardſon, " and purſue it with atten- " tion, it will at once amuſe and inſtruct " you; ſhew you the inſtability of human " grandeur: and that a crown dazzling in " ſhew, is frequently but a weight of cares " to its poſſeſſor."

Thus they converſed until they reached home, when the children, having ſaluted their father, retired to their apartments.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

A Walk to Iſlington.---A Roman Incampment.---Queen Elizabeth alarmed by Beggars.---A Meeting with two Sailors.

THE day following, all the leſſons being performed, Mr. Richardſon informed his children that, as the day was remarkably fine, he would gratify them with a walk to Iſlington; and that their next excurſion ſhould be dictated by Mary.

This arrangement made, they proceeded towards the fields, converſing cheerfully by the way, until they reached the town, which their father informed them was, in the time of William the Firſt, called Iſendon, or Iſledon; and that, in the fields to the N. W. of a houſe of entertainment, called White Conduit-houſe, from a ſtone conduit near it, was an inclosure called the Reed Mote, or Six Acre-Field ſuppoſed to have been a Roman camp, and probably that from wnich Suetonius Paulinus ſallied when

when he routed Boadicea, Queen of the Iceni, who in conſequence poiſoned herſelf.

" Theſe are a people, papa," ſaid Mary, " that I do not recollect hearing of."

" I muſt again refer you to the Hiſtory " of England," replied he; " but thus far " I will inform you, they were the ancient " inhabitants of Suffolk, Norfolk, Cam- " bridgeſhire, and Huntingdonſhire."

" The ſituation of this village, conſider- " ing its vicinity to London, is very plea- " ſant," ſaid Charles.

" It was thought ſo much ſo," anſwered " Mr. Richardſon, " by Queen Elizabeth, " that ſhe frequently rode here of an even- " ing.—In one of theſe excurſions ſhe was " ſurrounded by ſuch a number of beg- " gars as greatly alarmed her, and cauſed " the Recorder to ſearch into it, when he " apprehended the next morning ſeventy- " four; many of whom were known rogues, " and were in conſequence ſent to Bride- " well, and puniſhed.—I muſt not here, " Charles, neglect to inform you, that, on

" the

" the Weſt ſide of this village, is a fine " reſervoir, called the New River Head, " from which the water is conveyed by " means of pipes, to ſupply the greater " part of the inhabitants of London."

By this time they had reached the town and again entered the fields when their attention was attracted by two young ſailors, apparently not above ſixteen or ſeventeen years of age, one of whom had loſt a leg, and ſeemed, by the difficulty with which he walked, and his leaning on his companion, as if his wound was not perfectly healed: what increaſed their curioſity was, that he frequently burſt into tears; and that his companion not only ſupported but appeared to ſpeak to him in moſt ſoothing terms.——" Poor boy!" ſaid Charles; " don't you think, Sir, he appears to walk " in great pain?"

" I fear he does," replied Mr. Richardſon, " and will therefore ſpeak to them; " if any thing can be done to ſolace him, " I will readily perform it."

With

With theſe words, he addreſſed the lame ſailor, ſaying, "My good lad, you ſeem to "walk with difficulty, the exertion may be "dangerous: if your companion will go "back to Iſlington and procure ſome per-"ſon to aſſiſt in ſupporting you, I will "willingly pay them."

How ſoothing, in the hour of ſorrow, is the voice of humanity; it reached at once the heart of the poor lad, who regarding Mr. Richardſon, his eyes ſwimming in tears, replied, "Heaven bleſs your good-"neſs, Sir! there is no occaſion; my "wound, though rather painful, is in no "danger."

"Are you lately returned from ſea?" ſaid Mr. Richardſon.

"Yes, Sir;---we have both been on "board men of war, and both very unfor-"tunate," anſwered the ſailor that had not before ſpoken, "for my poor couſin "George here has loſt his limb, as you ſee; "and I have loſt what I regard a thouſand "times dearer than my life---a dear,

"good

" good, and ſincere friend." As he ſpoke, he turned aſide, and wiped off the tears that ſtreamed from his eyes at the recollection.

" Yes, Sir," continued the lame boy, " William loſt his captain; he was mor-
" tally wounded in the laſt ſevere engage-
" ment, and William was ſhot in the
" ſhoulder in leading him from the
" deck."

Mr. Richardſon pauſed a moment, then ſaid, " Your misfortunes have been ſevere;
" but now you are returned, have you any
" friends to receive and comfort you under
" them?"

The lame boy caſt his eyes on the ground, in ſilence; but his companion replied, " I truſt in God we have both mo-
" thers, Sir; we have been abſent two
" years, and are now returning home to
" Edmonton."

" That diſtance I think too far for your
" relation," ſaid Mr. Richardſon; " engage,
" therefore, the firſt conveyance you meet;
" theſe young folks will willingly pay the
" expence,

Charles and Mary wanted no ſecond command; each preſenting a half-crown to the lame ſailor. "God's bleſſings light on you, Sir," replied the boy, drawing back; "we will not impoſe on your gene-"roſity; we have more than ſufficient to "carry us home; but you are like the "Samaritan in the Scripture. May you "be happy in this world and in that to "come! May your children be ever good "and dutiful, and then they will never ſuf-"fer like me!"

Mr. Richardſon, who was anxious on every ſubject that could convey inſtruction to his children, replied, "I hope you have "no occaſion of ſelf-reproach to increaſe "your misfortunes?"

"Alas, Sir!" returned he, "I have "but too many; they have doubled every "pang, for I have ever remembered that "I deſerved all I ſuffered."

"At leaſt," replied Mr. Richardſon, "you appear ſorry for your errors.—Mis-"fortunes are often ſalutary; they teach

" us to know ourſelves, and how inſignifi-
" cant we are without the protection of a
" beneficent Creator.—Will you oblige
" me with telling me all that relates to you?
" —I have ſome experience, and advice
" is often uſeful."

" Ah, Sir! I have hitherto turned a
" deaf ear to the voice of advice and affec-
" tion.—I cannot however deny you, though
" I fear you will deſpiſe me when you hear
" what a wicked wretch I have been;
" but God has puniſhed, and, I hope, will
" pardon me."

" A repentant contrite heart was never
" yet rejected," replied Mr. Richardſon:
" as the ground is dry, you had better be
" ſeated." Then addreſſing his children, he ſaid, " In this young man's account,
" ſhould you hear any thing blameable
" remember that all are prone to errors;
" and endeavour to avoid thoſe faults
" which he appears to conſider as only
" deſervedly puniſhed by his misfor-
" tunes."

Charles

Charles and Mary ſeated themſelves by their father on the graſs: the ſailors followed their example, at a reſpectful diſtance; when the lame boy, with ſome heſitation, began as follows.

CHAP. VII.

Story of the Wanderer returned.

"WILLIAM and myſelf, Sir, are ſome-
"what turned of ſeventeen; our mothers
"are ſiſters, and became widows when we
"were very young.—William's father had
"been all his life at ſea, and at his death
"had nothing to leave his family. My
"father was a cutler; and my mother
"made ſhift to keep on the buſineſs,
"through the kindneſs of my father's old
"maſter, who ſtill followed his profeſſion
"at Tottenham. Thus ſhe had more in
"her power than my aunt, and I was lazy
"many an hour when William laboured;
"for, as long as I can remember, he was
"always induſtrious; and whatever he
"could earn, or was given him, he took
"to his mother, whoſe only means of life
"was working at her needle and knitting.
"I was regularly kept to ſchool, and ſo
"indeed

" indeed was William, but his mother " could not afford to pay; he therefore " worked out the expence, in whatever " the ſchoolmaſter thought fit to employ " him; and made, in a ſhort time, ſuch " improvement, that there was not a boy " in the whole ſchool wrote ſo good a " hand; beſide, if any body at Edmonton " wanted a truſty lad to do an errand, on " any thing particular, they were ſure to " ſay, " Send for William Parker; you " may truſt him with your life.—"

" Indeed, George," interrupted his couſin, bluſhing, " your ſtory is ſo tedious, " that it makes one aſhamed, and will " weary the gentleman."

" I am ſorry for it," returned George: " but I only ſpoke truth, as many can teſ- " tify.—Nothing material happened until " we reached our fourteenth year, when " both our parents wiſhed us to learn ſome " buſineſs whereby we might gain a live- " lihood: mine, indeed, was fixed, for my " mother was anxious for me to learn my " father's, as his cuſtomers would alſo

" have continued mine—William was wil-
" ling to learn whatever was moſt conve-
" nient; but unfortunately his mother
" could pay no premium, ſo that he was
" not immediately placed. In the mean
" time I was apprenticed to my father's old
" maſter, now much in years, and who, I
" muſt honeſtly confeſs, now I have ex-
" perienced the difference, treated me like
" his own child. I was however regard-
" leſs of his kindneſs, and thought it very
" hard to work a few hours in the day;
" for I had been accuſtomed to play and
" amuſe myſelf, until I began to feel as if
" I was made for no other purpoſe; and
" frequently ſaid to my companions, though
" I could make no reaſonable objection,
" that I hated the buſineſs, and would
" never learn it: then, if I was ſent on the
" moſt trivial meſſage, I was ſure to ſtay
" by the way three times as long as was
" neceſſary; ſo that by the time I had
" ſerved a quarter of a year, I ſincerely
" believe, my maſter was heartily tired,
" though, for my parents' ſake, he bore

" with

" with me. In the mean time, my aunt " was greatly diſtreſſed to place William, " when hearing that her late huſband's " Captain was in town, returned from a " foreign ſtation, where he had been long " fixed, ſhe determined to take her ſon " and conſult him; for he had been a good " friend to her huſband.—Captain Wells " received her with great kindneſs, expreſ- " ſed his ſorrow for her loſs, and ſhook Wil- " liam heartily by the hand, ſaying, ' What ' think you, my lad, of your father's profeſ- ' ſion? Boys and men we ſailed together five- ' and-thirty years; drubbed our foes in ' many an engagement, yet came off with all ' our limbs, and he died at laſt in his bed ' by neither powder nor ball.'—I have " heard my aunt tell this; and ſhe ſaid ſhe " could not forbear replying, ' God ſend, ' Sir, when your time comes, you may ' do the ſame; for yours is a perilous ' life."—' The will of Heaven be done,' " anſwered the Captain: ' *I fear God, and* ' *have no other fear*; and in whatever ſhape ' I am to meet death, I hope it will be

' with

with the fortitude and reſignation of a ‘ Chriſtian; for, in my gayeſt moments, ‘ I have never failed to remember that my ‘ life was an uncertain tenure, to be claim- ‘ ed, perhaps, at a moment's warning.—But ‘ what ſay you, my boy, to my propoſal? ‘ or rather what ſays your mother, ſhe muſt ‘ determine this buſineſs? I never yet ‘ engaged a lad without the conſent of his ‘ parents, nor will I begin now; for a ‘ good conſcience makes us ſail lightly, ‘ but an evil one is a very troubleſome ‘ companion in a ſtorm; ſo I don't chooſe ‘ to be plagued with it.’

‘ Good Sir, anſwered my aunt, ‘ this ‘ poor boy is now my all.’

‘ Why, then, you ſhould endeavour to ‘ make a man of him,’ returned he; ‘ but ‘ I would by no means perſuade you: ‘ give this buſineſs a week's reflection, ‘ and let me know the reſult. If you truſt ‘ him to me, I will be his friend; or if ‘ you prefer putting him apprentice, I will ‘ pay his premium, for the ſake of his ‘ honeſt father.’

I need

" I need not tell you, Sir, how happy " they returned home, at leaſt William; " for my aunt was rather at a loſs to " chooſe; ſhe was unwilling to let her ſon " go to ſea, yet ſhe well knew the value " of the Captain's word, when he ſaid " he would be his friend, for he always " performed yet more than he promiſed: " my couſin too plainly ſhewed which way " his wiſhes tended, for the Captain's " goodneſs had quite gained his heart.

" In the evening I called to know the " reſult of their walk to town, and am " aſhamed to confeſs, that though I loved " my couſin, I envied his ſucceſs, and " inſtantly formed the reſolution that I " alſo would go to ſea; never conſidering " that I had no one to recommend me, " nor yet that I ſhould take the curſe of " diſobedience with me.—Not to intrude " on your patience, Sir, my aunt at length " conſented to let William go. Before he " ſailed he came to pay us a farewel viſit; " ſo ſmart and gay in his new jacket and " trowſers, that if I was envious before,

" I was

" I was now doubly ſo; and to complete " the whole, he had not only plenty of " money in his pocket, but an order for " his mother to receive a guinea every " month of the Captain's agent during his " abſence. Both wept bitterly at parting, " and William declared, he would willingly " give up all, rather than ſee her ſo diſtreſ- " ſed. At length, finding her ſomewhat more " compoſed, he ſaid, ' Bleſs me, my dear ' mother! with God's guidance, and ſo ' good a maſter, I can apprehend nothing: ' keep up your ſpirits; I have no fear of ' returning well and happy.'

' I truſt you will,' anſwered my aunt, ' for you have ever been a dutiful, induſ- ' trious child, and God's bleſſing will reſt ' upon you.—Go, then, be proſperous ' and happy.

" As ſhe ſpoke ſhe looſed him from her, " and, unable to ſay farewel, he waved his " hand and left us.

" My whole thoughts were now em- " ployed how to get away to ſea; neither " the kindneſs of my maſter, nor the diſ-

" treſs

" treſs my mother muſt ſuffer on my ac-
" count, had the leaſt weight with me;
" and one fine morning, taking my beſt
" clothes, and about half a guinea I had
" ſaved for this purpoſe, I ſet off for
" London unknown to any one. I ſoon
" inquired out the ſhipping, and meeting
" a ſea-faring man, told him my buſineſs,
" and as he adviſed, I entered; on which
" h gave me a guinea, and kept me to
" dinner.

" This ſpecimen delighted me; I thought
" my fortune made; and the day paſſed
" jovially, drinking more than ever I had
" done in my life; ſo that towards even-
" ing I was intoxicated, and in that ſtate
" took on board of ſhip. The liquor
" I had drank made me ſleep ſoundly till
" morning, when I awoke much diſor-
" dered: I had been accuſtomed to the
" utmoſt regularity, a clean bed, and a
" good breakfaſt;—here I had drank like
" a beaſt, and been thrown into a dirty
" hammock with my clothes on, and no
" breakfaſt offered me; and to complete
" all,

" all, could ſcarcely ſtand from the ago-
" nies I ſuffered in my head and ſtomach,
" the natural conſequences of my intem-
" perance. I however put as good a face
" on the matter as poſſible, and was or-
" dered to work, for we were fitting for
" ſea, until before night I was completely
" weary, and began to repent my folly;
" but repentance was too late, for I could
" not now even get a line to my mother;
" the newly entered ſailors being all cloſely
" watched for fear of deſertion; what put
" it yet more out of my power was, that
" in a few days we cleared the river and
" went to ſea. William's Captain, I have
" already told you, Sir, was the beſt of
" men; mine was one of the moſt violent
" and ſevere in the whole navy; and, for
" my own part, having been accuſtomed
" to indulgence, and naturally a lover of
" idleneſs, I found my ſituation dreadful
" beyond deſcription; for I was forced to
" labour hard, riſe at all hours, face every
" inclemency of the weather; and yet,
" however careful, met many kicks, and

" ſtrokes

" ſtrokes acroſs the ſhoulders with a " rope's-end, for my awkwardneſs, in the " courſe of the day;---and what was yet " more bitter than the blows, I could not " avoid reflecting that the ſituation was " of my own fabricating, and my puniſh- " ment richly deſerved.

" Our deſtination was the Weſt Indies, " where I caught the yellow fever, and had " nearly loſt my life.—As we were ſta- " tioned for a year and a half, I found an " opportunity to write to my mother, " craving her pardon, and promiſing, if " ever I got back, to make amends for all " my former follies; but to this I never " received any anſwer; and though I " wrote ſeveral other letters, I was equally " unſucceſsful. Doubtleſs the war, and " other diſaſtrous events, prevented their " coming ſafe to hand.

" At length we had orders to return " home, which was very pleaſing to me, " though my ſituation was not in reality " ſo irkſome as formerly; for though the " effort had coſt me many an aching heart

" and painful ſhoulders, I had got into a " habit of induſtry, and in conſequence " met with fewer blows.

" We had been about ſix weeks on our " way home, and I was exulting in the " hope of ſeeing my family, whoſe value " I had learned from their loſs; when " one morning we diſcovered a French " ſhip making towards us, and which ap- " peared of ſuperior ſtrength.—We pre- " pared for action, and about twelve a " ſevere engagement enſued. The ſcene of " ſlaughter that ſurrounded me might have " appalled the boldeſt heart; but I hope I " did my duty, though my conſcience per- " petually whiſpered, how happy I might " have been, and how miſerable I had " made myſelf.—At length, in the heat " of the engagement, as I was waiting for " orders, a cannon-ſhot ſtruck my leg, " and I fell ſenſeleſs on the deck, amidſt " a heap of dead and wounded.—The " French ſhip being diſabled ran; and " ours was too much impaired to purſue; " the Captain therefore thought only of

" ſafety,

" ſafety, and making the beſt of his way,
" ordering us all to the care of the ſur-
" geon.—My leg was ſo much ſhattered,
" that amputation was neceſſary; and I
" bore it patiently, for I could not help
" ſaying within myſelf,---'Tis the hand
" of God; and the juſt puniſhment of diſ-
" obedience, ingratitude, and idleneſs.

" In ten days we reached Portſmouth,
" when the wounded men were removed to
" the hoſpital, and myſelf among the num-
" ber: here it was, after a confinement of
" two months, I met my couſin William,
" who by chance called to ſee a ſick com-
" rade.---Notwithſtanding my undeſerv-
" ing, he embraced me with kindneſs,
" and, by his diſcourſe afterwards, ſhewed
" me the full extent of my wickedneſs,
" reconciled me by his reaſoning to my
" misfortune, ſhared his little purſe with
" me, and finally is now leading me home,
" a penitent wanderer; ſenſible of the
" good I heretofore threw from me, and
" willing to labour in any manner that
" my ſtrength will allow; or in any ſitua-

" tion that the providence of God may " place me in."

" Indeed, Sir," ſaid William, addreſſing Mr. Richardſon, as his couſin concluded his ſtory, " George has repreſented his " errors in their worſt colours ; I am ſure " he is now heartily ſorrow for them, and I " hope will hereafter do very well ; for, " thank God, as he has both his arms, he " will be able to work at his buſineſs, " which will make his mother amends for " all her ſorrows, and ſhew the world, that " though he has been faulty, he was not " incorrigible."

" Your advice, young man," returned Mr. Richardſon, " is perfectly good, and, " I truſt, will be followed : indeed I have " no doubt of it, for your couſin appears " thoroughly ſenſible of his follies ;---but " you alſo, I underſtand, received a " wound ; is that perfectly healed ?"

" Ah, Sir, that was well before we came " on ſhore ; would to Heaven my dear " maſter's had been no worſe !"

" Do you propoſe to remain in the ſea- " ſervice ?

" I cannot

" I cannot tell, Sir; I am now in town " by leave of the preſent Captain, who " granted it at the requeſt of the ſhip " ſurgeon, who has ordered me to meet " him the day after to-morrow at Captain " Wells's brother's, who is a merchant in " Fenchurch-ſtreet."

Mr. Richardſon cautioned both againſt George's appearing before his mother until ſhe was appriſed of his misfortune; gave William a card, and bid him call on him when he came to town, which the lad, with many thanks, promiſed to perform.

Mr. Richardſon took a hand of each of his children, and bidding the ſailors farewell, walked towards town, while they purſued their way to Edmonton.

CHAP. VIII.

Punishment frequently salutary.---Respect due to aged Servants.---Account of the Monument---Of the Fire of London---Of the first building of London Bridge.---Anecdote of Edmund Osborne, Ancestor to the Duke of Leeds.—Of the Boar's Head in East-Cheap.

CHARLES and Mary remained for some time silent; at length the latter said, "Dear papa, how sorry am I for that poor "unhappy boy; I hope, however, he will "be good now."

"I hope he will," answered her father; "in which case, how salutary will his mis- "fortunes have been to him! It is not "given to our contracted understanding "to judge properly of the goodness of "God in all that befals us; for what "frequently appears a grievous calamity, "is in reality kindness and mercy:—for

"example

" example, had this lad remained at " home, his evil habits would have con- " tinued in full force; and in all proba- " bility he would have grown up a drunk- " ard, and an idler, or perhaps worſe. " On the contrary, he has now, by cor- " rection, been forced into a habit of in- " duſtry, and will know the value of the " lighter labour required of him; and for " the loſs of his limb, it will be a laſting " memorial of his paſt errors, and the " goodneſs of his Creator, who ſuffered " the ball only to ſtrike his leg, when it " might, in an inſtant, have deprived " him of life, with all his follies unre- " pented."

" But what a good creature William " appears," ſaid Charles; " did you ob- " ſerve, Sir, how tenderly he ſpoke of " his maſter, and how kind he is to his " couſin?"

" It was not loſt on me," anſwered he; " and I have no doubt he will meet with " his reward.---A good and faithful ſer- " vant is a jewel that cannot be too much " eſtimated;

" eſtimated; they ſhould be treated with " kindneſs in their youth, and reſpect " in their age, if they grow old in our " ſervice; for where a man or a woman " has devoted their whole life to labour " for us, they have ſurely a ſtrong claim " both on our humanity and generoſity."

With ſuch diſcourſe they reached home; when Mr. Richardſon diſmiſſed them to their apartments, ſaying, " Perform your " leſſons early, and if the day be fine to-" morrow, we will take a ramble."

The children had the ſatisfaction to ſee a clear troſty morning; and their duties being fulfilled, Mr. Richardſon was not unmindful of his promiſe; and addreſſing Mary, he ſaid, " You, my love, are to " direct the amuſement of this day."

Mary pauſed a while, then ſaid, " I have " long wiſhed to ſee London-bridge, papa; " may we walk thither?"

" Undoubtedly," anſwered he, pleaſed that their curioſity was not attracted by ſome more frivolous ſubject; " an object " of

" of ſuch general utility is well worthy our " inſpection."

Mary was pleaſed that her choice had met her father's approbation, and they proceeded cheerfully until they reached Fiſh-Street-Hill, when the monument ſtruck their attention; and Mr. Richardſon, willing to gratify them, drew near to obſerve it, informing them it was erected in commemoration of the great fire of London in the year 1666; and which, dreadful to relate, in four days conſumed the whole of the city within the walls, and alſo extended without as far as the Temple, and Fetter-lane. "The damage " ſuſtained by this dreadful element," continued he, " was eſtimated at ten mil- " lions ſeven hundred and ſixteen thou- " ſand pounds: but, by the ſingular mercy " of God, very few lives were loſt. Great " as this calamity was, it put a ſtop to " one of a more tremendous nature; for " the plague, which had before viſited our " capital, with very ſhort intervals, never " appeared after the rebuilding of the " city,

" city, in a more open and airy manner, " that removed ſeveral nuiſances, which, if " they did not abſolutely breed the plague, " at leaſt increaſed the contagion.

" The Monument was built by Sir " Chriſtopher Wren; it is a Doric column, " and meaſures two hundred and two feet " high; the bas relief was cut by Gabriel " Cibber, and denotes, as you ſee, the " deſtruction and reſtoration of the city."

Theſe obſervations made, they walked to London-bridge, where Mr. Richardſon continued his information, ſaying, " This " bridge was firſt erected by a college of " prieſts of St. Mary Overie's, ſuppoſed " about the year 1098, previous to which " it had been a ferry; the intereſt in " which was bequeathed by the old boat- " man to his daughter; who, out of the " profits, founded a nunnery, and endow- " ed it. This was afterwards converted " into a college of prieſts, who not only " built the bridge, but kept it in repair; " but you muſt underſtand it was then only " of timber, and very rudely put together.

" About

" About the year 1136 it was burned " down, and though renewed by the year " 1163, became ſo ruinous as to occaſion " its being rebuilt; but again becoming " damaged, about the year 1176, it was " determined to build it of ſtone, which " then proved a work of thirty-three " years, under the inſpection of one Peter, " curate of St. Mary Colechurch, a cele- " brated architect of thoſe days, but who " died four years before it was completed, " and was buried in a beautiful chapel on " the bridge, moſt probably of his own " conſtruction, and dedicated to St. Tho- " mas, which ſtood on the ninth pier from " the north end, and had an entrance from " the river as well as the ſtreet, by a wind- " ing ſtaircaſe. It was ſaid to be beau- " tifully paved with black and white " marble, and in the middle was a tomb, " ſuppoſed to contain the remains of Peter " the architect.

" Originally there were houſes on both " ſides of the bridge; which were con- " tinued until the year 1756, and which

" formed

" formed a dark narrow ſtreet, dangerous " to paſſengers from the number of car- " riages.—Theſe houſes were moſtly inha- " bited by pin-makers---now I recollect, " Mary, I muſt not neglect to inform you, " that needles were firſt made in England " by a negro in Cheapſide, who died with- " out communicating his art; but a Ger- " man, in the reign of Elizabeth, was " more liberal, and taught the method to " the Engliſh.---But to return," continued he; " to the bridge; a fire happened on it " four years after it was finiſhed: it broke " out on the Southwark ſide, and multi- " tudes of people ruſhed out of London " to extinguiſh it. While they were en- " gaged in this charitable deſign, the " flames ſeized on the oppoſite end, and " encloſed the crowd.---Above three thou- " ſand perſons periſhed either by fire or " were drowned by overloading the veſſels " that attempted to ſave them."

" Dear me! how dreadful!" ſaid Mary; " the deaths of theſe poor people were oc- " caſioned by their good-nature and hu- " manity,

" manity, in endeavouring to ſave the " ſufferers and extinguiſh the fire."

" Doubtleſs ſo," replied Mr. Richardſon; " but can we die better than in per- " forming an action acceptable in the " ſight of God? and does he not com- " mand us to love one another; and to do " unto all men as we would they ſhould " do unto us?—But to reſume the diſ- " courſe I will relate to you an anecdote " which, though tragical in the beginning, " was very fortunate in its conſequences. " —About the year 1536, Edmund Oſ- " borne, an anceſtor of the Duke of Leeds, " lived an apprentice with Sir William " Hewet, a cloth-worker, on this bridge. " One day, as a maid-ſervant was play- " ing at a window with Sir William's " only daughter, the child, by a ſudden " ſpring, jumped from her arms, and fell " into the water. Young Oſborne, who " was preſent at the misfortune, inſtantly " leaped after her; and, to the amazement " of all, brought her ſafe to the arms of " her terrified father. This generous ac-

" tion, joined to Oſborne's univerſal good
" character, made him, as you may ſup-
" poſe, no inconſiderable favourite in the
" family, ſo that when the young lady
" became marriageable, and was aſked of
" her father by many ſuitors, and among
" others, by the Earl of Shrewſbury, he
" declined them all, and decided in favour
" of Oſborne; ſaying, he ſaved her life;
" and that he only ſhould have his conſent
" to eſpouſe her.—In her right he poſ-
" ſeſſed a great fortune, was made She-
" riff of London in 1575, and Lord
" Mayor in 1582."

" How fortunate!" cried Mary; " Of-
" borne was very humane, and Sir Wil-
" liam equally generous."

" Oſborne's humanity was indeed
" great," replied her father, " and it was
" well requited; but I cannot ſuppoſe
" that generoſity alone influenced Sir
" William: he had a complete knowledge
" of the diſpoſition and character of Oſ-
" borne, during a ſeven years reſidence,
" and had found him blameleſs; he

there-

" therefore paid the debt he owed to " Oſborne, and ſecured the happineſs " of his child by uniting her to a worthy " man."

They converſed thus as they took the way homeward; when, in paſſing through Eaſt-Cheap, Charles's attention was attracted by a houſe on which was a boar's head, cut in ſtone, with the letters *I. T.* and the date 1663: " My dear Sir," ſaid he, " why is that placed there: is it for any " particular uſe?"

" I ſhould ſuppoſe," anſwered Mr. Richardſon, " that it is a memorial that " on this ſpot ſtood the famous tavern of " that name, ſo frequently mentioned by " our ancient authors, and the rendezvous " of the Prince of Wales, afterwards " Henry the Fifth, and his profligate " companions. Here it was that Prince, " with his brothers John and Thomas, " and their party, made ſuch a riot " one morning, between two and three " o'clock, that the city magiſtrates were " obliged to interfere, which ſo highly

" exaſperated the Prince, that the magiſ-
" trates were convened before the Chief
" Juſtice, who, having examined the whole
" affair, diſmiſſed them with honour, de-
" claring they did no more than their
" duty, and what was requiſite to main-
" tain the peace. This deciſion was ſo
" vexatious to the Prince, that, in the
" moment of paſſion, he forgot himſelf
" ſo far as to ſtrike Judge Gaſcoigne on
" the bench, who, like an upright ma-
" giſtrate, regardleſs of the rank of the
" offender, immediately committed him
" to priſon."

" I wonder," obſerved Charles, " that
" he was not fearful of offending ſuch
" a great perſonage."

" An honeſt man, Charles, is never
" fearful of doing his duty; ſhould he
" neglect, how can he anſwer it to his
" own conſcience? Nay, the Prince of
" Wales, though at the moment exaſ-
" perated, was ſo ſenſible of this, that
" when he came to the crown, he highly

" honoured

" honoured the Chief Juſtice, and diſ-
" carded all his looſe companions."

" As the Prince, Sir, frequented this
" place, I ſuppoſe it was very much re-
" ſorted to by others, as well as his com-
" panions."

" Your ſuppoſition is right, Charles," returned Mr. Richardſon; " for this " ſtreet was famous in old times for its " convivial doings; an ancient writer ſpeaks " of it thus: *The cooks cried hot ribs of* " *beef roaſted; pies, well baked; and other* " *victuals: then there was clattering of* " *pewter, pots, harps, pipe, and ſawtrie*; " which was a ſtringed inſtrument that " was played upon with ſticks."

A church clock at that moment ſtriking three, Mr. Richardſon haſtened his children, who had far exceeded their uſual hour; but the walk had created them an appetite, and having eaten their dinner heartily, while their father ſuperintended his mercantile concerns, they retired to their apartment, revolving on the information they had received, and

Charles ſeeking out the more correct accounts in the Hiſtory of England, and reading them to his ſiſter.

They were ſo much employed in theſe purſuits, that Mr. Richardſon had dined, and ſent for them to take tea with him, before they thought it near ſo late; ſo true it is that time properly employed never hangs heavy on our hands.

CHAP. IX.

Idleneſs puniſhed.

THE morning following, the weather proving rainy, Mary appeared highly diſſatisfied; and addreſſing Charles, whom ſhe obſerved employed in preparing for his maſters, ſhe ſaid, "You have no occaſion "to hurry, for the weather is ſo bad that "we cannot go out."

"I am ſorry for it," anſwered Charles, "but ſhall learn my exerciſes notwith-"ſtanding; for when my leſſons are con-"cluded, I can amuſe myſelf with reading "the Hiſtory of England."

"You may if you pleaſe," replied Mary; "but, for my part, I am only intereſted "in thoſe accounts reſpecting perſons "whom papa has pointed out to our no-"tice."

"I dare ſay," returned Charles, "if "we read it regularly, that it will all

"equally

"equally amuſe and intereſt us; and "therefore, for my part, am reſolved to "begin and continue regularly without "miſſing a line."

"I ſhall not take all that trouble," ſaid ſhe, "and as it is a rainy morning, my "leſſons will be done before dinner, which "will be quite time enough."

They were here interrupted by Mr. Richardſon, who had for ſome time been in the adjoining chamber, and heard the whole dialogue; though that circumſtance was unſuſpected by the children.

He ſaluted them in his uſual affectionate manner, and ſoon after left them, without the leaſt notice of what had paſſed.

Breakfaſt being over, and Charles ready with his leſſons, he had finiſhed the whole before Mary had thought of a ſingle line, and her governeſs was remonſtrating when Mr. Richardſon entered to inform them, *his* buſineſs for the morning was concluded, and if they had likewiſe done *theirs*, he ſhould be glad of their company,

as he had obtained permiſſion for them to ſee Lambeth-palace.

Mary now felt the conſequences of her idleneſs, and began buſtling about her different taſks, but neither the French leſſon, writing, nor accounts were to be done in a moment; therefore, after a pauſe, ſhe ſaid, with ſome heſitation, "I "have not quite done, papa; but if you "will have the goodneſs to wait for me, I "will make great haſte; or, rather, if "you will permit me, I will take double "leſſons to-morrow.

"To your firſt requeſt, Mary," replied Mr. Richardſon with firmneſs but much good-humour, "I can only anſwer, that, "as I have done my buſineſs, and Charles "his duty, it would be unjuſt that we "ſhould be kept at home in compliance "to your idleneſs, when you have had "equal time to perform what was required "of you.—To your ſecond requeſt I "can only ſay, that buſineſs, with me, "muſt ever precede pleaſure; and that "nothing neceſſary to be done to-day,

"ſhould

" ſhould be delayed until the morrow.—I " wiſh you a good morning, and hope you " will be ready to accompany us in our " next walk."

Thus ſaying, he took Charles by the hand and left the room.

Charles would fain have interceded for his ſiſter, but Mr. Richardſon was deaf to all palliatives; and entering the carriage he ordered it to Lambeth.

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

A Viſit to Lambeth Palace.—When built.—Account of the Lollards Tower.—Diſtreſs of Mary, Wife of James the Second.---Number of Volumes in the Library.---Longevity of a Tortoiſe.---Anecdote of the Pedlar and his Dog.---Tomb of the Antiquarian Tranſcendant---His Epitaph.

As they were going forward, Charles ſaid to his father, "I did not know, Sir, "that there was a palace at Lambeth; "pray who reſides in it?"

"The Archbiſhop of Canterbury," returned Mr. Richardſon; "it was founded "about the thirteenth century by Archbiſhop Boniface, but frequently enlarged "by his ſucceſſors; until Henry Chickley, "who enjoyed the primacy from the year "1414 until 1443, highly improved the "whole, and built the Lollards Tower, "a priſon for the unhappy followers of "Wickliffe, who was a miniſter that "preached

" preached againſt the then received re-
" ligion. You will ſhudder, Charles, in
" viewing this laſt-mentioned building, at
" the top of which is an apartment where
" theſe poor men were confined; it is only
" twelve feet long, and nine broad: to
" the wainſcot, which is of oak, is faſtened
" large iron rings, to which the priſoners
" were chained before they were brought
" to the ſtake; there are likewiſe ſcratches,
" half-ſentences, names, and letters, cut
" with a knife by the unhappy ſufferers."

" How dreadful!" ſaid Charles; " but
" for a churchman to be concerned in
" ſuch a buſineſs, muſt make him de-
" ſpiſed—"

" It ought to have done ſo, Charles;
" for humanity, meekneſs, and humility
" ſhould be the marking characteriſtics of
" teachers of the Goſpel, and diſciples
" of our Bleſſed Saviour: but, alas! in
" thoſe days it was frequently the reverſe,
" for they were cruel, arrogant, and
" proud; and ſpared no blood to increaſe

" their

" their power, or prevent any innovation " on their tenets."

By this time they had nearly reached the palace, when the clouds being diſperſed, and the rain greatly dried, Mr. Richardſon and Charles left the carriage and by the deſire of the latter, accurately examined the building on the outſide.

The venerable antiquity of the palace; its beautiful ſituation, and the church, peculiarly charmed Charles; who declared he could not have thought there was ſo delightful a ſpot near the metropolis.

On paſſing the church-wall, Mr. Richardſon drew his ſon's attention towards it, by ſaying, " To ſhew you, Charles, what " ſudden tranſitions human nature is ſub- " ject to, and that greatneſs and power " cannot always ſecure its poſſeſſors from " the bleak wind, or ' pityleſs ſtorm'- " under that very wall, Mary, Queen of " James the Second, flying, with her " infant ſon, from the abdicated White- " hall, took ſhelter on a moſt inclement " night, December the 6th, 1688. Here

" ſhe waited a whole hour, until a com-
" mon coach was procured from the next
" inn, which conveyed her to Graveſend,
" whence ſhe ſailed to France, never more
" to return.—But come, we will now
" examine the interior of the palace,
" which, I have no doubt, will afford you
" equal ſatisfaction."

They then entered the houſe, where the ſervant, who was appriſed of their coming, waited while Mr. Richardſon explained every circumſtance to his ſon.

" I muſt obſerve to you, Charles," ſaid he, " that after the decollation of Charles
" the Firſt, this palace fell to the ſhare of
" Colonel Scot (an adherent of Crom-
" wel); he converted the chapel into a
" dancing-room, demoliſhed the great
" hall, and in other reſpects greatly in-
" jured this venerable pile. The prelates,
" however, ſince the Reſtoration, have, as
" you ſee, done all in their power to repair
" theſe ravages."

The ſervant then led the way through the different apartments, informing them the

the names of the perſonages repreſented in the paintings; a ſcrutiny of which Charles was not ſoon weary, until the man leading to the library, the paintings, at leaſt for the preſent, gave way to the books, which Mr. Richardſon informed Charles began to be collected by Archbiſhop Bancroft, in the year 1610, ſince which they had been greatly increaſed by his ſucceſſors; that by the ſuggeſtion of Mr. Selden they were depoſited at Cambridge during the Civil War, where they remained till the Reſtoration, and now amounted to 25,000 volumes.

In this apartment they were alſo ſhewn the ſhell of a tortoiſe, to which a label is affixed, importing that it was put into the garden by Archbiſhop Laud, in the year 1633, and lived until 1753, a ſpace of 120 years; when it was killed by the negligence of the gardener.

The library of manuſcripts next attracted Charles's notice; which his father informed him were very curious, and to the number of 11,000.

On viewing the Lollards Tower, Charles threw a haſty glance around, and taking his father's arm, ſaid, "Sir, I have ſeen "enough here; my heart ſinks on the re- "flection of the pangs that have been ſuf- "fered within theſe walls;—thank God "there is no perſecution of that nature "now!"

"We will, if you pleaſe, adjourn to "the church," ſaid Mr. Richardſon, addreſſing the ſervant.

The man obeyed, and led the way to the church, which is at a very ſmall diſtance from the palace; Mr. Richardſon making his ſon obſerve, that it was built in the Gothic architecture of Edward the Fourth's time.

On their entrance a painting of a man with a dog, on one of the windows, ſtruck Charles, who aſked his father the ſubject.

Mr. Richardſon replied, "Tradition, "Charles, informs us, that a piece of "ground near Weſtminſter-bridge, con- "taining one acre and nineteen roods, "named Pedlar's Acre, was left to this "pariſh

" pariſh by a pedlar, upon condition that " his picture, and that of his dog, ſhould " be perpetually preſerved on painted glaſs " on one of the windows of the church, " which the pariſhioners have carefully " performed. The time of this gift was, " in 1504, when the ground was let at " 2*s.* 8*d.* *per annum*; but, in the year " 1762, it was let on leaſe at 100*l.* *per* year, " and a fine of 800*l.*; and is now eſti- " mated to be worth 250*l.* yearly."

" What an amazing advance in the " price of land!" ſaid Charles; " but " could any reaſon be given for the ped- " lar's ridiculous request?"

" None, I believe, certain; but the " reaſon alledged is, that as the pedlar, " who was very poor, was paſſing the be- " fore-mentioned piece of ground, he " could by no means get his dog away, " who kept ſcratching a particular ſpot of " earth until he attracted his maſter's no- " tice; who going back to examine the " cauſe, and preſſing with his ſtick, found " ſomething hard, which, on a nearer in-

" spection, proved a pot of gold. With " part of this money, he purchased the " land, and settled in the parish; to which " he bequeathed it on the conditions afore- " said.---In this church, Charles," continued Mr. Richardson, you will find " little to attract your attention; several, indeed, of the later Primates are " buried here, but without any remarkable monument to distinguish them; " you will therefore make your observations, and we will adjourn to the church- " yard."

Charles's examinations concluded, his father made a present to the servant, and they entered the churchyard alone, where the monument of the Tradescants was soon noticed by Charles, and of whom his father gave him the following account:

" The elder Tradescant was the first " person that ever formed a Cabinet of " curiosities in this kingdom. Both father " and son were great travellers, and, from " their discoveries, introduced multitudes " of plants and flowers into our gardens

" unknown

" unknown before. Nor were their studies
" confined to the vegetable kingdom, for
" their collection of medals, coins, and
" other antiquities appear to have been
" very valuable; and to collect the whole,
" they must have undergone great diffi-
" culties: the father, particularly, is said
" to have visited Russia, most parts of
" Europe, Turkey, Greece, many of the
" Eastern countries, Egypt, and Barbary.
" By virtue of a deed of gift from Mr.
" Tradescant the younger, the whole of
" these curiosities came into the possession
" of Mr. Ashmole, who removed them
" to Oxford, where they are carefully pre-
" served.—This monument was, as you
" see, erected in 1662, by the wife of the
" younger; and ornamented by embla-
" matic devices, denoting the extent of
" their travels, and their attention to
" natural history. Time had greatly in-
" jured it; but, in the year 1773, the
" parish, to their great honour, repaired
" it, and caused to be engraven on the
" stone, the inscription originally de-
" signed."

" If

"If it would not be intruding on your "goodness, Sir," said Charles, "I would "transcribe the inscription to shew Mary, "who, I am grieved, has not been with us "this morning."

"I will wait willingly; but have you "a pencil and paper?"

Charles answering in the affirmative, Mr. Richardson walked at a small distance while his son transcribed the following lines:

Know, stranger ere thou pass, beneath this stone,
Lie John Tradescant, Grandsire, Father, Son;
The last dy'd in his spring; the other two,
Liv'd till they had travell'd Art and Nature through,
As by their choice collections may appear,
Of what is rare, in land in sea, in air;
Whilst they (as Homer's Iliad in a nut),
A world of wonders in one closet shut:
These famous antiquaries that had been
Both gardeners to the Rose and Lilly Queen,
Transplanted now themselves, sleep here; and when
Angels shall with their trumpets waken men,
And fire shall purge the world, these hence shall rise,
And change their garden for a Paradise.

Charles having written the epitaph, and it growing late, they hastened to the coach, and in half an hour reached home.

CHAP.

CHAP. XI.

Exertion.---A Visit from William the Sailor.---Honesty rewarded

MARY, for some time after her father and brother's departure, gave vent to her tears; but, at length, finding they had no effect, but making her head ach, and protracting the lessons which her father's behaviour convinced her must be executed, or she expect no recreation, she wiped her eyes, and sat down to her studies. Though she had imbibed a habit of idleness, she was naturally active, and possessed a retentive memory; thus the French task was scarcely read thrice before it was learned, nor were the other lessons more tardy; for she had concluded them so speedily, that even she herself thought the time soon elapsed.

"What a silly girl was I," said she to her governess, Mrs. Beaumont,- "not to

"do

" do these trifles in the morning, I should " then have been with them; but what " vexes me even worse than being dis- " appointed of my pleasure is, that I " know my papa thinks me idle; and " though he did not express anger, he " will not easily forget it."

" Suppose," answered Mrs. Beaumont, " that you were to endeavour to give him " some convincing proof that you are not " so."

" But, my dear Madam," returned Mary, " how is that to be done at " once?"

" Nay, I scarcely know," answered she, carelessly; " but suppose you were to take " double lessons, are you capable of so " much exertion?"

Mary by no means approved the double lessons, but the question piqued her, and she replied, rather petulantly, " I should " be very sorry, Madam, if I were not."

The lessens were then set, and learned even more speedily than before; for Mrs. Beaumont's

Beaumont's question had touched her pride, and she wished to shew her of what she was capable; the whole therefore was concluded before Mr. Richardson's return.

Mary expected to be highly praised both by her governess and father; but the first simply said, she had done well; and the second---"You have now, Mary, given "us a proof of your capacity; you find "it is more than equal to double what is "required of you; therefore idleness "alone can ever prevent you performing "your duty, which I give you my word, "I will never excuse, whatever may be the "state of the *weather*."

The last sentence gave her to understand that he had overheard the discourse of the morning, and almost overcome with shame she hesitatingly made an excuse for her conduct, which Mr. Richardson readily accepted.

Mr. Richardson's dinner was just over and his children sent for to partake the desert,

desert, when his servant informed him that a young lad requested to see him.

Good men are usually easy of access, and of that denomination was Mr. Richardson; who instantly ordering the lad in, was well pleased to find it the sailor William, from Edmonton.

"Well, young man," said he, good-humouredly, "how did you find your "friends? and have you yet been to your Captain's brother?"

The boys's feelings appeared too powerful for utterance, but at length he said, "My "mother, thank God, Sir, is well; but for my good Captain"---sobs choaked his voice, and the sentence remained unfinished.

"Compose yourself," said Mr. Richardson, "take that glass of wine," reaching him one; "we are in no hurry to learn "particulars."

The lad drank the wine, and after a few moments exclaimed, with a fresh burst of sorrow—"My Captain, Sir, has left me "two hundred pounds."

"I am

"I am rejoiced at it," answered Mr. Richardson, "for I have no doubt you "deserved it; but that even is surely no "cause for sorrow?"

"No Sir," replied he, "that is not, "yet it renews all my grief, when I reflect "what a good friend I have lost; a friend "that no money can make amends for; "and that such a gentleman, even, in his "dying hours, should condescend to re-"member me."

"But your lame cousin," said Mr. Richardson, to relieve the discourse, "how "is he situated?

"Ah, Sir, bad enough; he found his "mother worn to a skeleton, and all gone "to ruin; for she was so distressed by his "absence, that it impaired her health, and "the business has been neglected, and, I "fear, totally lost."

"I hope you were prudent enough not "to shock her suddenly with his appear-"ance?" said Mr. Richardson.

"I was, Sir, as careful as possible; for "I went in first, and informed my mother,

" who, I thought, would never have taken
" her arms from my neck, nor, indeed,
" was I in any haste; but my heart ached
" for poor George, who stood trembling
" without, uncertain how he should be re-
" ceived; or, what was worse, thinking
" that perhaps his conduct had broken
" his mother's heart. At last I called him
" in, and my mother received him kindly;
" and we agreed to leave him at our house,
" while I went to prepare my aunt. Poor
" woman, she was seated in her old arm-
" chair, but so altered, that one could
" hardly know her; she was, however,
" glad to see me, and after some discourse,
" asked me whether ever I had seen her
" unhappy son?---I answered, that I had;
" and was glad to tell her, he would now
" be all she wished. At first we thought
" she would have fainted; but recovering
" by degrees, I informed her of the whole,
" and then went to fetch George; but
" the worst was to come; for she no sooner
" heard the sound of his wooden leg on
" the stairs, than she screamed aloud and

" covered

" covered her face with her hands.--
" George, on his entrance, could scarcely
" speak; but recovering, he said, " Oh!
" forgive me, my mother; be not thus
" shocked at my appearance; though I
" have lost a leg, I have gained what more
" than compensates for it, a heart willing
" to labour, and repay the long arrears
" of duty I owe you." These words ap-
" peared to comfort her, and in an hour
" she was tolerably composed; but I fear
" all George's cares will not be able to re-
" store her; and then, poor fellow, he
" will have the additional punishment of
" thinking he has plunged her into the
" grave. But I beg your pardon, Sir; I
" am sure my long story must have
" wearied you, and the young gentle-
" folks."

" I requested it," returned Mr. Richardson; but how does your cousin mean
" to dispose of himself."

" His master, the cutler, Sir, on his
" submission, has agreed to let him finish
" his time, as he says, for the sake of his

" mother. When I left them this morn-
" ing, I was very uneasy with thinking
" how both our parents were to be main-
" tained in the interval; but that difficulty
" is now done away."

" And how have you surmounted that
" inconvenience?" demanded Mr. Rich-
ardson.

" I am rich now, Sir, and can well af-
" ford to keep both our mothers, at least
" until George is able to do something for
" his."

" Exemplary youth," said Mr. Rich-
ardson, in a low voice, to his son. " How
" dignified is Virtue, whatever form she
" assumes!" then turning to the young man, he addressed him thus: " To de-
" prive you of the satisfaction of assisting
" of your mother, would be depriving you
" of what money could not compensate;
" but for your aunt, should she survive,
" these young people will occasionally help
" her during her son's apprenticeship; and
" for him, as I hope he has renounced his

" errors,

" errors, I will find him clothes during that
" time."

William was astonished at this goodness; but his thanks were too sincere to suffer him to be eloquent.

" And now," said Mr. Richardson, " how do you intend to dispose of your-
" self?"

" I shall go to sea again, Sir, though, " to own the truth, I have no great liking " to that life now my good master is " gone. Ah, Sir, I would have attended " him to the world's end. However, " God's will must be done; I shall, in " respect to my friends, go with a light " heart, for they will not want in my ab-
" sence."

" If you would prefer a situation at " home," replied Mr. Richardson, " I will " obtain your discharge, and, as I un-
" derstand you write a good hand, place " you under my clerks, where, with care " and attention, you may soon render " yourself useful."

The young lad seemed transported with pleasure, and repeatedly blessed the hour that he met so good a friend.

Thanks were not the incense Mr. Richardson delighted in; and telling him he would be late home, dismissed him, bidding him call again in a few days.

CHAP.

CHAP. XII.

A Proof of the Sailor William's Attachment to his Master.---Account of St. James's Palace.---Condescension of King Charles the Second.---A poor Beggar-woman relieved.

CHARLES and Mary were both pleased with this arrangement; and the discourse long after William's departure, turned on the subject. "I did not," said the good man, "inform you before what I learned "in this business; but Captain Wells's "brother I am well acquainted with; he "is a merchant of great repute, and yes-"terday, on 'Change, I asked him con-"cerning this lad. He then informed me, "that his late brother had intrusted his "will to the Surgeon of the ship; that "among other bequests, there was two "hundred pounds to this boy, whose af-"fection, as he expressed it in his will, "had saved him from being killed on

"the

" the deck, by rushing through the thickest
" of the fire, and supporting him away,
" though he received a shot in the shoulder
" in the attempt."

" What a brave lad!" said Charles.
" At least," replied Mr. Richardson,
" he has a heart capable of gratitude,
" which, to me, is a warm recommendation;
" and as Mr. Wells did not appear to
" have any inclination to engage him, I
" was not displeased at the acquisition."

Thus ended the conversation, at least for that time; and, after two hours spent pleasantly with their father, the children retired to rest.

Mary's lessons were performed early the ensuing morning; and Charles's also being concluded they sat down to amuse themselves until their father should send for them; Charles reading aloud, and Mary employed on a piece of embroidery; though her eyes often wandered to the door, in expectancy of the wished-for summons. Thus situated were they when Mr. Richardson entered, who declared himself

himself well satisfied with them, and that though he was busy, he would make a point of walking an hour with them in the evening.

This assurance kept them in spirits the whole day, Mary working very assiduously, being determined to remove the stigma of idleness from her character; but what gave Mrs. Beaumont yet more pleasure was to see, that though the History of England had not interested her at once sufficiently to make her read it, yet, as Charles proceeded, it insensibly caught her attention, and she frequently stopped him with either her questions or comments.

Dinner over, Mr. Richardson desired them to be ready; then ordered the coach to St. James's Park, an excursion Mary had chosen.

On their reaching the palace, Mary said, "This building, I think, papa, is not "handsome enough to be called a palace; "the name makes one expect something "magnificent."

"It

" It is a proof, then, Mary, that we " should not judge by external appearances; " for it is allowed to be the most com- " modious of any in Europe for regal " parade. On the spot where St. James's " palace now stands," continued Mr. Richardson, " was orignally an hospital " dedicated to that Saint, for fourteen " leprous females; and eight brethren " were afterwards added, to perform divine " service. In the year 1531, it was sur- " rendered to Henry the Eighth, who " founded, on its site the present building; " he also inclosed the Park, which was " jointly appertaining to this, and his pa- " lace at Whitehall, but few improvements " took place in it till the reign of Charles " the Second; he planted the avenues, " made the Canal; and the Bird-cage-walk " is named from the number of bird-cages " then hung among the trees. Here it " was that Monarch was frequently seen, " amidst crouds of spectators feeding his " ducks, and playing with his dogs, passing " his idle moments in affability even to the meanest

" meanest of his subjects; a conduct that " made him, in spite of his imprudence, " almost adored by the common people; " so fascinating is condescension from the " rich to the poor. St. James's palace " does not appear to have been the regular " residence of any of our Monarchs until " in the reign of King William, when it " was fitted up for the Princess Anne (after- " wards Queen) and her consort, Prince " George of Denmark. From that time " to the present, it has regularly been " the court of our Sovereigns."

These observations were made as they proceeded through the Park, when Mary, wishing to rest awile, they seated themselves on one of the benches. They had continued but a short time, when a woman, poorly but cleanly dressed, came up and supplicated their charity, though in a manner and with an address that shewed it was a humiliation to which she was unaccustomed, and overwhelmed her with shame. The children were in a moment ready with their sixpences, which given,

given, Mr. Richardson observed her accurately, and said, "How is it that a woman "like you, in the prime of life, is so re- "duced as to be obliged to beg? surely "you are capable of earning an existence "in a less derogatory manner."

"Alas, Sir!" replied the woman, "that "is true; I can do all kinds of needle- "work; and I am willing, could I find "any employment; but I have no one to "recommend me."

"I fear that argues a fault in your cha- "racter," answered he; "for few people "that walk honestly through life until "your age, but, however unfortunate, "some one will exert their humanity to "assist them."

"Alas, Sir!" "replied she, "it is in- "deed a fault in my character, which, "though not profligate, has been very "erroneous; and which neither sorrow nor "repentance can obliterate."

"True repentance obliterates our errors "even with our Maker, who himself is "spotless; and shall frail humanity judge

"of

" of its fellow sinner so harshly?—For the
" present take that half-crown, and if you
" are really what you declare, repentant
" for your errors, and willing to gain an
" honest existence by your industry, call
" on me to-morrow," giving his address,
" and I will endeavour to help you far-
" ther."

The woman looked astonished, and unable to reply; but fixing her eyes on them, and supporting herself against a tree, she burst into tears; while Mr. Richardson hastened along the Mall with his children, and soon reached the coach.

CHAP. XIII.

The Beggar-woman's Story.—The Disadvantages of a bad Character.

MR. Richardson being employed the ensuing morning with his mercantile concerns, the children walked with Mrs. Beaumont until dinner; after which they amused themselves during the afternoon until sent for by their father.

In the mean time the poor woman they had seen in the Park the day before called as desired; and being admitted, Mr. Richardson questioned her respecting her former life, and finding that though erroneous, there was nothing to injure the morals of his children, he sent for them to be present at the relation.

"My children," said he, "I wished "you to hear the relation of this poor "woman's misfortunes; from them may "you learn wisdom, and avoid those errors "that

" that have wrought her ruin."---Then turning to her, he added, " Fear not to " speak the truth; it shall not injure you " with me, for falshood is a crime of all " others I detest."

The poor woman answered, " Alas, " Sir! falshood, vanity, and arrogance, " have been the bane of my life, and left " me destitute as you see; therefore, with " God's assistance, were I ever to be placed " in comfort, as I have been, I have ab- " jured them for ever; I have read that " the wages of sin is death, and I am sure " the reward of falsehood, vanity, and " unbridled passion, is shame and sorrow; " therefore, well or ill befall me, I am re- " solved to make truth my invariable rule " in every transaction."

" You will do well," replied Mr. Richardson; " truth may procure us blame, " but cannot be disgraced; therefore, I " again desire you to speak without fear."

The woman obeyed, and began as follows:

The Disadvantage of a bad Character.

" My name is Charlotte Glover; my " parents died when I was very young, " and I was sent to reside with my grand- " mother, who lived on an annuity left " her by her husband. My father was a " jeweller, but his affairs had not been " prosperous; therefore I had no provision " but what depended on the bounty of my " grandmother, whose income, though suf- " ficient to support us in credit, would " allow of no superfluities. I was but " two years old when I went to her, and " was soon so great a favourite, that I " might be truly said to act as I pleased; " for, on the least contradiction I threw " myself into such frenzies of passion as " frightened them, and in consequence was " sure to gain my point. Evil habits " strengthened with time, and one vice is " ever sure to engender another; thus, as " I grew older, I became artful, and a " liar; so that whenever I was refused any

" thing

" thing I wished, either by our friends or " servant, I was sure to represent it in " so false a light that she regarded them " as the aggressors. Thus, by the time I " was eight years old, we were continually " changing our maid, and trades-people, " and my pride was perpetually wounded " by the dislike I could not but observe " every one bore me, and that they were " barely civil on account of my grand- " mother. With such a disposition I was " every one's enemy, and every one was " mine; for I neither loved any person, " nor was beloved, except by my grand- " mother, who, poor woman, bore with " all my caprices; whereas had ſhe crushed " them in the bud, she would have spared " herſelf many an hour of bitter remorſe, " and me for appearing before you in this " humiliating ſituation.

" I had frequently heard people ſay, as " I paſſed along the ſtreet, that I was a " fine girl, a circumſtance I treaſured in " my memory; and that gave riſe to ano- " ther vice, which was vanity, and made

"me regard all I thought plainer than "myself with disdain; but the girls in the "neighbourhood, who had no right to "bear with such insolence, instead of "treating me with the respect they would "otherwise have done from the credit in "which we lived, behaved very rudely, "sneering in my face, and calling me Miss "Beauty, or any contemptuous epithet "they could devise; and which, as I was "sure to return with acrimony, I some-"times have had even dirt thrown at me. "In these cases I used to go crying home "to my grandmother, who, not inquiring "into the truth of the story, was sure to "blame the girls, and frequently sent to "complain of them.

"Not to tire you with a repetition of "follies, I shall pass over the time until I "attained my twelfth year, when my inso-"lence arose to such a height, that I used "to choose what school I pleased, to dis-"charge the servant, or change the trades-"people; for my grandmother's weakness "increased my power: I likewise impo-

"verished

" verished her with my extravagancies in
" dress; for, as I could not make the neigh-
" bours daughters respect me from my
" behaviour, I resolved they should envy
" me for my clothes.

" Nothing more material happened until
" I attained my eighteenth year, when one
" day I happened to accompany my grand-
" mother to the banker's where she received
" her money. A gentleman of a very pre-
" possessing appearance was paying in a
" large sum, and seemed to regard us with
" particular attention; which my vanity
" instantly construed into admiration. In
" this case I was not greatly mistaken, for
" after our departure he inquired our ad-
" dress, and the very next day applied with
" great respect to my grandmother, for
" leave to pay his addresses to me, saying,
" his fortune was affluent, and he wished
" no dower with a wife, but prudence,
" meekness, and good-humour. I need
" not say that he had made a very erroneous
" choice for these qualities, but that he
" was ignorant of, and was admitted a

" suiter

" suiter in due form. " My pride had " now reached its summit; for I saw my- " self in idea the wife of a man of great " property, and trampling on all those " that despised me; but fortune seemed " only to have risen me to this height to " make my fall the greater.—One day, " that I had been in my usual airs with " the maid, Mr. Smith, my suiter, came " in unexpectedly, and though I smoothed " my ruffled brow as well as possible, I " had too long given way to my passions " to be able to subdue them easily, and " the girl coming in soon after, and mak- " ing a false step, and treading on my " gown, I was totally thrown off my guard, " and turning hastily round, I gave her a " box on the ear. My poor grandmother " looked shocked and ashamed; and wil- " ling to palliate my behaviour, said, " gently, My dear, Jenny did not do it " on purpose; but you are so petulent this " morning."—" You are an old fool this " morning,"---answered I, stamping with " passion; and should doubtless have

" continued

" continued my insolence, but my eyes at " that moment meeting those of Mr. " Smith, I saw I had lost his affection for " ever, for he regarded me with amaze- " ment and horror, and without speaking " a syllable, snatched his hat and rushed " out of the house. My rage now knew no " bounds; but what did it avail? Alas, " nothing! it recoiled upon myself, and, " exhausted with raving, I at last sunk " into a sullen stupor; from which I was, " however, awakened by the maid bring- " ing in a letter, and delivering it to my " grandmother. I had not patience to let " her read it, but snatching it from her, " found as follows; for it is too well im- " printed on my memory ever to be " forgotten:

" Madam,

" You may recollect that when I first " proposed to pay my addresses to Miss " Glover, I informed you that I had for- " tune sufficient; and that my only wish

" was

" was to unite myself to a woman who was
" possessed of prudence, meekness, and
" good-humour.—As I find myself de-
" ceived, I must in consequence withdraw
" my suit; though I cannot help acknow-
" ledging her person has made an impression
" on my heart; but which, I have no
" doubt, reason will enable me to over-
" come; for though I am sure I could
" live happy with a good-tempered homely
" woman, yet I never could with one,
" however beautiful, with a bad temper.
" I will candidly confess that I had heard
" of this before, both by anonymous let-
" ters, and the busy impertinence of some
" of your neighbours; but I make it a
" point never to listen to incendiaries of any
" kind, and therefore treated the informa-
" tion with contempt.—But though I was
" deaf to them, I cannot shut my ears and
" eyes against conviction so apparent, and
" can only repent our ever having met;
" and with good wishes, remain,

" Your obedient humble servant,

" W. SMITH."

" This

" This was the first severe blow I ever " sustained: the whole neighbourhood " knew my expectations, and I was well " convinced would rejoice in my disgrace; " thus pride, grief, and vexation united " to distract me, and in a few hours I was " in a violent fever.—I must here make a " digression to inform you, that I had ne- " ver had the small-pox; for when inno- " culation was mentioned, I was accustom- " ed to throw myself into such paroxysms " of rage and crying, that it was ever " given up.

" Whether my rage had the effect by " overheating my blood, or that I had " caught the infection, I cannot tell, but " the next day I sickened with the small- " pox; which, from the height of the " fever occasioned by my anguish of mind, " disfigured me as you see. For a whole " month my life was despaired of, when I " began slowly to recover; and to conceal " none of my wickedness from you, when " I saw myself in the glass, I wished I had " died, and insulted my poor grandmother

" for

" for her weakness in not obliging me to be
" innoculated, in which case neither my
" life nor person would have been endan-
" gered.

" If my temper was insufferable before,
" this event by no means contributed to
" mend it; poverty, disgrace, and misery
" were necessary to work a reformation,
" for desperate maladies require violent
" remedies; and I know no malady half
" so dreadful as the detestable spirit I was
" possessed of.—I now hated to leave the
" house, for if I went only down the street,
" I heard tittering on every side, and con-
" temptuous expressions on my altered per-
" son. In this uneasy state of mind, I
" had no amusement but my needle; in
" which I had made such improvement,
" that had I but possessed any friends to
" recommend me, I need never have wanted
" a decent maintenance.

" I had just attained my twentieth year,
" when my grandmother fell sick, and
" died in a few days.—Her senses were
" unimpaired, and the evening before her
" dissolution,

" dissolution, calling me to her, she said,
" My dear Charlotte, I die in charity with
" all mankind, nor have I any thing to
" reproach myself beyond the common
" frailties of weak humanity, but in re-
" spect to yourself; and on your account
" have much to answer, for all your mis-
" carriages, and, I fear, future sorrows,
" may be attributed to my false and fatal
" indulgence.---Oh! if my dying words
" can make any impression, struggle to
" overcome a disposition that makes you
" hateful to others, and a torment to your-
" self.---Had I been more prudent, I might
" have had a few hundreds to bequeath
" you; but as it is, my half-year's annuity
" of a hundred pounds, now due at the
" banker's, and my furniture, is the whole.
" You are very ingenious with your needle,
" and I have no doubt may make a com-
" fortable existence, if you will exert your
" talents and curb your passions."

" My poor grandmother would not have
" dared to speak to me thus had she been
" in health; but she had reached that so-

" lemn moment when we retrace our errors,
" and see them without disguise.—For my-
" self also, vile as I was, I was sinking
" with grief, for to her alone in the wide
" world could I look for either affection or
" assistance. Grief was, however, unavail-
" ing; it could neither prolong her life
" nor obliterate my faults, and the morn-
" ing after her death my punishment be-
" gan.—The maid, who had been with us
" but a few months, after removing the
" breakfast things, told me she had got a
" place, and should be glad if I would dis-
" charge her.—At any other time this no-
" tice would have been treated with the
" higheſt contempt, and I should have
" thrown her her wages and bid her instantly
" be gone; but in the present state of my
" spirits, it was somewhat changed; for I
" neither wished the trouble of seeking a
" new maid, nor yet liked to be left in so
" melancholy a situation. I however did
" not try to sooth her, but aſked, haughti-
" ly, how she dared treat me thus; and
" absolutely refused her request.

" As

"As to that, Miss," said she, "you "may do as you please; there are proper "ways to get my money if you don't "choose to pay it; but stay another night "in this house I never will, that's po-"sitive."

"And what reason have you for this "behaviour?" replied I, calling her by "some contemptuous name.

"As for the reason, Miss, ask that of "yourself; have not you behaved to me "like a dog? Do you think servants have "no feeling nor memory? if you do, you "are greatly mistaken; they can remem-"ber both a good turn and a bad one.--- "For the poor old lady's sake, who was a "good soul, I used to bear with your in-"solence, and many a shilling has she "given me, unknown to you, to take no "notice of it; but she is gone now, and "who will may serve you: for my part, "I would sooner wait on a good-tempered "person for five pounds a-year than on "you for twenty."

" Imagine the effect of this answer on " a temper never accustomed to control; " I absolutely foamed with passion, and " bidding her make her account, told her " to be gone, with every insulting expres- " sion rage would suffer me to arti- " culate.

" I am in as great a hurry to be gone " as you can be to get rid of me," an- " swered she, sneering in my face; " so " you need not *fright* yourself; and if the " old lady has left you a fortune, the best " thing you can do is to go where they say " people buy black slaves, for there you " may not only bawl, and throw things at " their heads, but amuse yourself with " scourging them with your own hands, " for every whimsy that comes in your " mind."

" With these words she bounced out of " the room, leaving me in a state which " must have choaked me, had I not been " relieved by a flood of tears. Somewhat " recovered by these, I, in about two

" hours,

" hours, called her, and with more temper
" paid and discharged her.

" Behold me now alone in the house with
" my poor grandmother's corpse, which was
" a melancholy situation, though I was by
" no means weak or foolish enough to be
" alarmed at it, for I well knew the dead
" could not hurt me; and I truly believe,
" the six days I spent alone in this manner,
" for I could get no servant, was the first
" step towards correcting my follies.

" Some gentlemen that knew my grand-
" mother attended the funeral, which over,
" I began to reflect seriously what was to
" become of me. To work for my bread
" where I was known, my pride and va-
" nity forbade; beside, had I even at-
" tempted it, I was so much disliked that
" no one would have recommended or
" employed me; I therefore, after some
" consideration, resolved to sell the furni-
" ture, take the money from the banker's,
" pay what was owing, and retire where I
" was not known, until I could settle some
" feasible plan.

" With this determination I went one " morning to the banker's, but was greatly " astonished to find the house shut up; I " however thought some of the family were " dead, and knocked at the door; but what " was my distress and horror when informed " they had been necessitated to stop pay- " ment, and it was feared there would be " little or nothing for the creditors.

" I was so overpowered by this intelli- " gence, that I was obliged to request the " man to call me a coach, for I could " scarcely stand; and, to complete all, on " my return home I received demands from " the doctor, and different trades-people, " to the amount of forty pounds; which, " added to what was owing for rent, and " my grandmother's funeral, made nearly " eighty pounds.

" Had I been beloved among my neigh- " bours, they would, doubtless, as they " were all in good circumstances, have " stayed until it was seen what dividend " the banker could pay; but, as it was, my " loss was no sooner known, than the ap-

" plications

" plications were renewed in the most press-
" ing terms, and the most galling com-
" ments passed, even to my face, on my
" poor grandmother for bringing me up
" like a lady when she had no fortune to
" leave me.—Thus situated I had no other
" recourse but selling the furniture, which
" I was necessitated to do for half the
" value.

" The money thus obtained paid all that
" was owing; but left me destitute of a
" home, with only ten guineas and my
" clothes, and no friend to afford me either
" succour or counsel; I therefore deter-
" mined to remove into the city, and idle-
" ness not being among my faults, I en-
" deavoured to procure work or some si-
" tuation, but as I had no recommend-
" ation, nobody would employ me; in
" consequence my small stock was soon
" expended, and I found myself in the
" utmost necessity.

" The woman, where I had lodged some
" months, seeing me behave properly, for
" having no one to bear my humours, I

" studied

" studied to suppress them, at length, re-
" commended me to a friend of hers who
" kept a linen warehouse at the west-end of
" the town, and whom she thought might
" find me constant employ; she therefore
" desired me to wait on her early one
" morning.

" Though this was a humiliation that I
" did not easily brook, yet hunger was
" too pressing for me to refuse, and I ac-
" cordingly attended; but judge my sur-
" prize and shame, when in the mistress
" of the shop I instantly recognized the
" servant I had struck in the presence of
" Mr. Smith, and who did not quit us un-
" til after I had the small-pox.—Her sur-
" prise equalled mine, but recovering it
" first, she insulted me with all the mean-
" ness of a narrow mind, saying, " And
" is it come to this? Beauty went first, and
" pride follows after; I wish you much
" success, Miss, in your new situation,
" but cannot think of employing my mis-
" tress, particularly one who has beat
" me."

" To prevent more insult I immediately " left the house; but the consequences of " this meeting did not stop here, for she " represented me in such hateful colours " to my before friendly landlady, that she " gave me warning, and I was obliged to " leave the house.

" Driven to the last distress, I applied " to one of those offices where they pro- " cure places for servants, saying I was " just come from the country; and, to my " great satisfaction, in a few days was en- " gaged by a lady to wait upon her; but " my evil fortune still pursued me, for " one morning the milliner waiting on her " recognized me; and well, indeed, she " might, for having made me a cap, after " I had the small-pox, which not posses- " sing the power to make me look as I " did before, I tore it in pieces before her " and threw it into the fire. Actions of " this kind make people rancorous; and " my character, with every addition, was " related to my mistress, who discharged " me immediately, saying, she had no

" doubt

" doubt of the whole, as she knew me her-
" self to be a liar; having obtained her
" place by a falsehood, which was saying I
" came from the country.

" It would but weary you, Sir, to enter
" into a longer recapitulation of these
" scenes; I shall therefore simply inform
" you, that after this I gained employment
" six different times, and lost it again with-
" out giving any present offence, but being
" recognized, and the badness of my for-
" mer character.—At length I fell sick with
" sorrow and disappointment, during which
" time it pleased God to give me a due
" sense of my past follies, and to shew me
" that all my misfortunes have originated
" in myself.—This illness reduced me to
" the last extremity, and I was obliged
" even sometimes to sit whole nights at a
" door for want of lodging; and so pressed
" with hunger, that about a month since I
" resolved to beg, and seeing a handsome
" coach stop at the Park gate determined
" to entreat some assistance.—A lady and
" two pretty children alighted, and seeing

" my

" my supplicating posture, gave me instant-
" ly a shilling, saying, with great gentleness
" and humanity, " You do not seem ac-
" customed to this situation; call on me,
" and if I find you deserving, I will en-
" deavour to assist you further."—" While
" she was yet speaking, a gentleman came
" up to her and said, " I feared, my love,
" I should have been too late to partake
" your walk, which, I assure you, would
" greatly have disappointed me." " On
" fixing my eyes on the gentleman, I in-
" stantly recognized Mr. Smith; happily
" the alteration of my person and habili-
" ments prevented his recollecting me, and
" I hastened away without even ven-
" turing to speak, or wait for the address
" his lady was doubtless going to give me;
" reflecting on what I might have been,
" and to what misery my foolish conduct
" and bad character had reduced me.

" When I met you, Sir, I was almost
" sinking with want, having tasted no food
" but a single roll for two days: affliction
" had taught me to bow beneath the stroke;

" and

" and I looked forward, with pleasing ex-
" pectation, to the hour when my life might
" expiate my follies.—Your goodness has
" given rise to other thoughts, as that
" I might live to testify the sincerity of my
" repentance; and if in the most humble
" manner you can employ me, with God's
" help, I will not disgrace your bounty."

Mr. Richardson made no comments on this story before the relater; but ordering up his housekeeper, desired she would employ Charlotte Glover with what sewing might be necessary for the family; then giving her a couple of guineas, he dismissed her, saying, to prevent all thanks, " I shall place that to the account of your " work; and let me see you again in a " fortnight."

Poor Charlotte was so overpowered with this kindness, that had not the housekeeper taken her by the arm she must have fallen; leading her, therefore, from the apartment, she gave her some refreshment, and then dismissed her for the night.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIV.

Comments on the poor Woman's Story.--- The Duty of Parents to correct early all evil propensities in their Children--- The Hatefulness of Falsehood.

"WHAT think you, my children, "of this unhappy woman's story?" said Mr. Richardson.

"It has illustrated, Sir," said Charles, "what you observed respecting the sailor "George, that misfortunes are frequently "salutary; for I don't apprehend that "even if she had it in her power, she "would ever act so erroneously again."

"The supposition is charitable, and, "I hope, just; but bad habits are very "difficult to overcome, particularly such "an abominable spirit as she was pos-"sessed of, that had grown with her "strength, and increased with her years.— "However, my opinion coincides with "yours, for she appears thoroughly "humbled, and to trace all her misfor-

"tunes to their proper origin; and what, "above all, gives me hopes that she will "hereafter act properly is, that I have no "doubt but in the account of herself "she has spoken truth."

"Indeed, papa," answered Mary, "if "I had been so very naughty, I fear I "should have tried to make myself look a "little better, for I should have been "ashamed to own it."

"Then you would have redoubled your "crime: 'tis true, she might have deceived "me for a time, but could she deceive God? "who by some means might have led me "to the truth; in which case, as I des-"pise a liar, and when once discovered, "ever distrust them, I should have left "her in the misery in which I first found "her. In the present case, I suppose, I "can learn no worse than I have already "heard, though I am sorry to say, the "malevolence of man frequently repre-"sents the errors of those he dislikes in "their deepest colours; I therefore always "endeavour to allow for personal pique."

"Though,

"Though, with Mary," answered Charles "I should have wished not to "have appeared so very blameable, yet, I "hope, I should, like poor Charlotte, have "told the truth; for I think I should "scarcely feel more ashamed in being de- "tected in a theft, than convicted of a "lie, it is so mean and humiliating."

"It is indeed equally despicable," returned his father, "and yet more inju- "rious to society; for the thief pays his "forfeited life to the laws of his country, "but the liar lives to spread his contagion, "and cause innumerable mischiefs, until "called to answer them before the more "dread tribunal of his God."

"My dear papa," said Mary, warmly, "whenever I commit an error, I will can- "didly confess it, and you will forgive me."

"Assuredly, if I find you take care not "to repeat it.—But all poor Charlotte's "faults appear to have originated from "her bad grandmother."

"How can that be, papa?" returned Mary; "even the saucy maid, said she "was a good creature; and she was very

" kind to Charlotte, for she loved her in
" spite of all her naughtiness."

" She might be a well-meaning inof-
" fensive woman to the world in general,
" but you must allow she was a very bad
" grandmother; and could hardly have
" acted worse by Charlotte had she abso-
" lutely hated her. Was it not her duty,
" as she undertook the care of her, to
" endeavour to bring her up properly,
" and to have corrected her propensity
" to vice;—for example, had she severely
" punished her in her childhood for the
" improper liberties she took with the
" servants, and also for her passions and
" falsehoods, she would have been careful
" not to repeat them; and instead of
" being reduced to beggary, placed now in
" ease and affluence:---again, did she
" not nourish the despicable seeds of
" pride and vanity in her heart, by suffering
" her to dress more than became her situ-
" ation in life, or more than her property
" would allow? Would it not have been
" more prudent, think you, to have saved
" that superfluous expence, toward plac-

" ing

" ing her in some respectable situation at " her death? To have acted thus, would " indeed have been truly shewing her " affection."

" For the future, then, papa," said Mary, " when I am punished I will endea- " vour to think it is for my good."

" But I hope you will give no cause to " punish you, my love," returned he.

" I hope I shall not again, but I was " severely punished the other day by not " going to Lambeth; yet, when I reflect, " it was certainly for my good; for had " my lesson been excused then, I dare say " I should have neglected it again, and " expected the same indulgence."

" My dear Mary, I love your candour; " and to answer you with equal truth, it " was a punishment to me to leave you at " home; yet, as idleness is among the " most abominable of vices, I will never " have to reproach myself with having " encouraged it in you."

" Nor shall I ever more, I hope, give " you cause to punish me on that ac- count," replied Mary.—" Even Charlotte,

" with all her faults, does not appear to " have been idle, for she was willing to " work if any body would have employed " her."

" True, my love, and therefore if she " behaves well, *we* must endeavour to em- " ploy, and also to recommend her; for, " though I am willing to assist, yet I can- " not afford to support young healthy " people in idleness; neither, indeed, is " it just, as it would prevent me helping " those who are either too young or too " old to make exertions; thus Charlotte " must earn her existence by her needle, " and young William render himself use- " ful in the counting-house, in which case " neither of them will be burdensome " to me; and likewise themselves enjoy " the satisfaction of knowing they do not " eat the bread of idle dependence;--- " thus, my children, you see friendly ac- " tions are not always expensive, and it is " our duty to exert ourselves to assist our " fellow-creatures."

" And for me, my dear Sir," said Charles, " I will, by all possible means,

" endeavour

" endeavour to improve, in order to render " myself useful to you.

" The exertion will be highly praise- " worthy," replied Mr. Richardson. " In " a few years, if I live, I shall have ar- " rived at that period when business is no " longer pleasure but toil; then, with " what satisfaction shall I resign my cares " to a worthy and industrious successor.— " Mary, too, must learn to do her part: " the superintendance of the household, " and the arrangement of every particular " of the home department, immediately " appertains to the female; and a woman " is more truly respectable that performs, " with propriety, all these duties, than " one who leaves them to hirelings, and " employs her whole thoughts and time " on dress, balls, plays, or other trifles, " that do not merit a secondary consider- " ation.

" My dear papa," said Mary, " I will " try to be all that you can wish me."

" My good children, answered he, clasping an arm around each, " I do not

" doubt

" doubt your endeavours. But we have
" chatted beyond the usual hour: good
" night; if fine in the morning we will
" make our ramble longer than usual, as
" I shall have no particular business to
" transact."

CHAP.

CHAP. XV.

An Excursion to Greenwich.---A Visit to the Cavern at Blackheath

THE morning proving fine, Mr. Richardson ordered the coach early, to gratify his young people with a view of Greenwich. This excursion highly delighted them; nor did they fail to request all the information respecting the place their father was possessed of.

"Greenwich," said he, "was the birth-
"place of both Queen Mary and Queen
"Elizabeth, and there died the youthful
"King Edward the Sixth. A palace was
"first erected there by Humphrey Duke
"of Gloucester, who named it Placentia.
"It was afterwards enlarged by Henry the
"Seventh, and completed by Henry the
"Eighth. This building being suffered
"to run to decay, was in, the time of
"Charles the Second, pulled down, and
"that

" that monarch erected on the site the " first wing of the college, then designed " for a royal palace. He also enlarged " the park, walled it round, planted it, " and erected a royal observatory on the " top of the hill for the celebrated astro- " nomer Flamstead.

" King William gave this palace for the " use of disabled seamen, and for the " wives and children of such as lose their " lives at sea; and as he could not com- " pass so extensive a charity alone, desired " the assistance of his subjects, who, both " in his reign and the succeeding ones, " have contributed largely, not only to " finish the building in its present mag- " nificent state, but also to adorn and en- " dow it."

On their reaching the hospital, the children were greatly pleased, and Mary exclaimed, in a rapture, " Ah, papa, you " might well call it magnificent! This " is indeed a palace! Look, too, at the " old men, how clean and merry they ap- " pear! I shall always love the memory of King

"King William for this noble generous "gift."

"The institution," returned Mr. Richardson, "is indeed highly to the honour "of all concerned; for our seamen, after "experiencing the hardships and dangers "of a maritime life, have a just claim to "expect to finish their days sheltered from "want and the vicissitudes of fortune; "and it certainly must be a consolatory "reflection to them, that in case of neces-"sity they have such an asylum."

They then entered the building, the whole arrangement of which, and the beauty of the paintings, greatly pleased them; an old seaman leading the way, and explaining the various subjects, and giving every information concerning the management of the hospital.

"My dear Sir," said Charles, "how "truly did you say that good actions "communicate pleasure whenever they "are reflected on! for what a satisfaction "must a survey of this charity have given "to those that willingly contributed to-

"wards

" wards it when it makes even my heart " glow with delight, that am simply a " spectator !"

Having examined every particular of the hospital, they walked to the park, whose beautiful situation and delightful views so entirely employed their thoughts, that their father was more than once obliged to remind them it was far beyond their usual dinner hour. At length they forced themselves away, and entering the carriage, Mr. Richardson ordered it to Blackheath, where they found a dinner provided for them at the inn.

Having made a hasty meal, they proceeded to view the curious cavern discovered in the year 1780, on the left side of the ascent to Blackheath; and having procured a guide, they entered it.

The guide led the way with a lanthorn, down a regular flight of steps composed of chalk, and at least fifty feet from the surface of the earth, at the entrance, and, as the guide informed them, at the extremity

extremity of the cavern 160 feet. They then reached the apartments, which are seven in number, and where the guide lighted up candles. Some of these apartments are from twelve to thirty-six feet wide each way, and have a communication with each other by arched avenues. The sides and roof of these are chalk, the bottom of sand: some of the apartments have large conical domes, upwards of thirty-six feet high, supported by columns of chalk, and in one of them is a well of very fine water, twenty-seven feet deep.

Charles and Mary were not soon weary of exploring this cavern: but Mr. Richardson observing the latter shuddered, and complained of extreme cold, desired the guide to lead the way out.

"How amazingly curious!" said Mary, as they reached the top of the stairs, and again beheld the rays of the sun, which was setting as splendidly as possible, for the last of October, "yet how gladly do I

" again see the cheerful light! I shall " hereafter consider it with redoubled plea- " sure; for how dreadful must a dwelling " be where it never enters!"

" Dreadful, indeed!" resumed her father. " Yet how many are condemned to labour " in the bowels of the earth where no beam " of cheering sunshine can ever perfo- " rate, to dig for metals and minerals " for the use of their more fortunate fel- " low-creatures, who never consider the " sorrow and labour they have been pro- " cured with!"

" My dear Sir," said Charles " when " I have made myself master of the " history of my own country, I know " no study that would afford me so much " pleasure as natural history."

" You are perfectly right, Charles," answered his father. " No pursuit is more " pleasant, nor better calculated to im- " prove the mind; I therefore think your " intention commendable."

Then

Then they entered the coach, which was waiting for them, and conversed gaily until they reached town, when it being late, they took leave of their father for the night.

CHAP. XVI.

The Royal Exchange, first built by Sir Thomas Gresham.—Cheapside, an open Field in the Year 1246.—Account of the building of the Temple, and the religious Order of Knights Templars.

THE weather proving unfavourable for a week, Mr. Richardson had the satisfaction to find that Charles was perfectly content at home, and that Mary began to accustom herself to the recreation that books and the works of fancy afforded her. At the end of that period a fine morning inspired the children with the hope of a ramble: nor were they disappointed; for their father bidding them haſten their lessons, all were performed by twelve o'clock, at which hour he sent for them to attend him.

"I have not time," said he, "for any par-
"ticular observation to-day, being obliged
"to call in different parts of the town;
"however,

" however, it may afford you a little re-
" creation, and we can make our comments
" as we pass along."

Mr. Richardson ordered the coach to the Royal Exchange, and when he had performed his business, was not displeased to find his children curious respecting the building.

" It is, my children," said he, " the
" great mart of commerce to the whole
" world, merchants, and captains of ships
" meeting here daily to transact business.
" It was originally built by Sir Thomas
" Gresham, at the instigation of Richard
" Clough, afterwards knighted, but for
" many years servant to Sir Thomas, who
" had so high an opinion of his integrity,
" that he advanced him to be his agent at
" Antwerp, from whence, in one of his
" letters to his master, he bluntly said,
" that the merchants of London studied
" nothing but their own private profit,
" for that, in every other country, they
" had a place proper to transact their bu-
" siness: whereas in London they walked

" about in the rain, more like pedlars than " merchants. This reproach stimulated " Sir Thomas to purchase some tenements " on the site of the Royal Exchange, and " the building was begun in the year 1566, " and completed in 1567. Three years " after, queen Elizabeth paid Sir Thomas " a visit at his own house, and, after dinner, " viewed every part of the building, which " she dignified by naming the Royal Ex- " change. This edifice continued until " the great fire of London, when it was " destroyed, but afterwards rebuilt, in its " present magnificent form, by the city and " company of mercers, at the expence of " eighty thousand pounds. In it are the " statues of several of our kings; nor " must I neglect to tell you that Sir Thomas " Gresham is not forgotten, being in one " corner, in the dress of his time."

The bustle and number of shops in Cheapside next attracted Mary's notice, and her father, ever ready to gratify laudable curiosity, informed her that it received its name from *chepe*, a market, being

originally the great street of splendid shops.

"In the year 1246," added he, "we "are informed by an old writer that it was "an open field, called Crown Field, from "an inn of that sign at the east end. The "same writer adds, that not until two hun- "dred years after the above-mentioned date "were there any streets in London paved, "except Thames-street, and from Ludgate- "hill to Charing-cross."

"Ah! there is St. Paul's," exclaimed Charles. "What a magnificent build- "ing!"

"We will give it a particular examina- "tion on the first opportunity; I will "therefore defer my observations till then," replied Mr. Richardson.

Nothing particular attracted their notice until they reached the Temple, near Fleet-street, where Mr. Richardson informed them he had business.

"This," said he, "is one of our cele- "brated seats of law, and took its name "from a religious military Order called "Knights

" Knights Templars. They were originally crusaders, who happening to be quartered in places adjacent to the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, in the year 1118, consecrated themselves to the service of religion by deeds of arms, binding themselves to chastity and obedience, and professing to protect pilgrims to the Holy Land from all dangers on the road. At first they subsisted on alms, had but one horse between two of them, and wore a white habit, but which was afterwards distinguished by a red cross on the left shoulder. By their gallant actions and devotion they became very popular throughout Europe, and so enriched by bequests and the favour of princes, that at the dissolution of their Order they were found possessed of sixteen thousand manors. At length a persecution, founded on the most unjust accusations, was formed against them in France, and many suffered at the stake; in all probability their riches being their chief crime. This potent Order had their first house

" in

" in Holborn, which was named the Old " Temple, but founded their new Temple " in the year 1185, where they resided " until the suppression of their Order in " 1310, when they were dispersed into " several monasteries, and condemned to " perpetual penance. Edward the Second " granted their possessions to two different " noblemen: but again reverting to the " crown, he bestowed them on the Knights " of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, " who had valiantly driven the Turks out " of the Isle of Rhodes. In the reign of " Edward the Third, these Knights granted " the Temple to the students of common " law, to whose use it has ever since been " applied.

" The church belonging to the Temple " is founded on the model of the holy se- " pulchre, and was consecrated in the year " 1185. In it are interred many people " of the greatest note, several of whom " are represented on their monuments lying " cross-legged, as it is said, in comme- " moration of their having assumed the

cross

" cross, and devoted themselves to the " service of Christ."

The coach stopping, the conversation ceased, and Mr. Richardson, having concluded his business, ordered the carriage home, it being near the children's dinner-hour.

CHAP. XVII.

The Inconvenience of too much Money.—A Letter respecting Frank Williams and his Sister.—Personal Qualifications ought to be no particular Recommendation to Objects of Charity.

On their arrival at home, in the hall they found the young sailor, William Parker, who was waiting Mr. Richardson's commands when he should enter into his service.

Mr. Richardson ordered him into the parlour, and seeing him look more chearful than usual, said, "Young man, I hope "business goes well with you; at least "your countenance appears to bespeak it."

"Indeed, sir," replied William, "I "am much happier than I was; for my "poor aunt will, I hope, recover—George's "good behaviour appears to have given her "new life; and, to complete all, with part "of the money that I received I have placed

"my

" my mother in a little haberdasher's shop,
" where I hope she will be able to get a
" living, and likewise to assist my aunt,
" who is come to reside with her. And
" now, sir, I have but one wish unsatisfied,
" which is, to enter my new employ, and
" endeavour to merit your goodness."

Mr. Richardson replied, that he might come when he pleased, if he had transacted all his business.

William bowed, and though the permission was obtained, appeared in no hurry to depart, but rather as if he had something to request which he did not know perfectly how to utter.

" If you have any thing to say, William,
" speak without restraint; my assistance or
" advice are both at your service."

" Then, sir," answered William, though
" I am ashamed to ask it—If you would
" condescend to tell me how to dispose of
" my money, I should consider it a fresh
" obligation."

" How much have you remaining?" said Mr. Richardson.

" Near

"Near a hundred and fifty pounds, sir; "and so much money is a very great charge; "for, in the first place, neither my mother "nor myself can sleep, we are so afraid of "being robbed, and when I am abroad I "am tempted to buy so many fine things "that I never before thought of, that I "don't choose to trust myself."

"It is ever good to be diffident of our- "selves, and carefully to avoid tempta- "tion," answered Mr. Richardson; "I "will therefore speak to my first clerk, "who will instruct you how to settle this "business properly."

William renewed his thanks, made his bow, and left the room, apparently rejoiced at the promise of being relieved from a charge which he knew not how to manage.

The servant at that moment brought in letters for Mr. Richardson. On reading one of them, he said to his children, "This "letter is an answer to one I wrote to the "overseers of Frank and Patty's parish. "I find they have spoken truth; and it is

"likewise added, that their parents were "very worthy, honest people: but to shew "you how imprudent and wicked it was of "them to distrust the goodness of God, "three weeks after their departure, a gen- "tleman arrived at their village and in- "quired for their parents, and finding "them dead, made all possible search after "their family—even causing these young "run-aways to be constantly advertised in "all the country papers for a long time; "an event which, but for our fortunately "meeting with them, in all probability "they would never have known, and per- "haps have continued wandering vaga- "bonds all their lives."

"And are you informed who the per- "son is that has inquired for them, sir?" said Charles.

"Not particularly; but that he is a re- "lation. I shall therefore write to the "overseers this evening, and inform them "where the children are to be found."

"Then," said Mary, mournfully, "I "dare say I shall loose Patty, and I shall "be very sorry for that."

"I have

"I have that opinion, Mary, of the "goodness of your heart, that you will, "on the contrary, be much rejoiced, if it "should happen for her good; you may "easily find some proper object on whom "to transfer your bounty."

"Yes, papa, very possibly: but I don't "think I shall ever meet with one so "pretty, and that sings so well."

"As to these qualifications," replied Mr. Richardson, "I really cannot pro-"mise; but I should be very sorry to think "they were particularly necessary to "awaken your sensibility; for in that case "your charities must be very circumscribed. "Besides, do you not think a homely per-"son suffers as much as a handsome one? "Are they not susceptible of the same "hunger, the same cold, the same pains of "body, and the same distress? For my "part, did I make any discrimination of "objects—which, however, I never shall "—I should be rather inclined to favour "those who were possessed of no personal "advantages, as they would be the least

" likely to inspire pity in weak minds, and,
" in consequence, the most distressed. For
" example, Mary: God hath given you a
" proper shape and pleasing person, unless
" you disfigure them hereafter by folly and
" affectation: but should any misfortune
" happen to deprive you of these advan-
" tages, do you think I could love you
" less? Surely not. I should, on the
" contrary, consider, that every mark of
" tenderness I could shew you was neces-
" sary to enable you to bear your misfor-
" tune."

" My dear papa, forgive me! I am
" ashamed of what I said, and, in future,
" will endeavour not to think of person."

" I hope you will keep that resolution,
" my dear girl; for nothing can be more
" weak or unpardonable than to be taken
" with mere external accomplishments.
" But I must for the present bid you fare-
" well, for I have business that cannot be
" neglected."

CHAP.

CHAP. XVIII.

A Ramble to Westminster Abbey.—When first built.—Crowned Heads interred there.—Reflection made by Mr. Addison on the Spot.—Westminster-Hall first built by William Rufus.—Grand Entertainments in that Place.—Royal Palace at Whitehall,—Great Increase of Buildings in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth.

THE duties of the morning fulfilled, Mr. Richardson and his children prepared for one of their usual excursions, which Charles entreated might be to Weſtminſter-abbey. The carriage was accordingly ordered thither.

" My dear children," said he, " you " must not expect from me a descriptive " relation of all the great personages who " lie interred in the abbey; for as there " are numberless accurate accounts to be " obtained, I shall simply confine myself " to an historical sketch of the first erec- " tion of the building, and inform you

" what crowned heads rest there. Sebert,
" the first of that name, and first Christian
" king of the East Saxons; Harold, the
" bastard son of Canutus the Dane, king
" of England; king Edward, called the
" Confessor, and Edith his queen; Maud,
" queen to king Henry the Firſt; king
" Henry the Third; king Edward the
" First and Eleanor his queen; king Ed-
" ward the Third and his queen Philipa;
" king Richard the Second and Anne his
" queen; king Henry the Fifth and Cathe-
" rine his queen; Anne, wife to king Richard
" the Third; king Henry the Seventh and
" Elizabeth his queen; king Edward the
" Sixth; Anne of Cleves, fourth wife to
" king Henry the Eighth; queen Mary;
" queen Elizabeth; king James the First
" and Anne his queen; king Charles the
" Second; king William and queen Mary;
" queen Anne; king George the Second
" and Caroline his queen. These, I be-
" lieve, are all the crowned heads that
" are interred there: but there are num-
" berless persons of the first dis-
" tinction, and others who have signa-
" lized

" lized themselves, in the annals of " their country, by bravery, genius, or " praise-worthy actions. Adjoining the " abbey was the ancient palace of our kings, " from the time of Edward the Confessor " to that of Henry the Eighth, when it " was consumed by fire. Many parts of " this ancient palace are still to be seen, " though converted to other uses. The " commons of England hold their assem- " blies where was once St. Stephen's cha- " pel, built by the king of that name, but " afterwards rebuilt, and made a collegiate " church by king Edward the Third: but " on its surrender to Edward the Sixth, it " was applied to its present use. Weſt- " minſter-hall, which I ſhall ſhew you, and " whose entrance is from New Palace-yard, " is accounted the largest apartment in " Europe that is not supported by pillars. " Its length is two hundred and seventy " feet, the breadth seventy-four: its height " adds to its solemnity; and is of timber " curiously constructed."

This discourse brought them to the abbey, when Mr. Richardson walked round

round with them to survey it on the outside.

" The spot on which this building is " erected," said he, " was once called " Thorney Island, from its being over- " run with thorns and briars, and likewise " insulated by a branch from the Thames. " The church is said to have been founded " about the year 610, by Serbert, king of " the Saxons, on the ruins of the Temple " of Apollo, and dedicated to St. Peter. " This church was burnt by the Danes, but " restored by king Edgar, who placed in it " twelve monks of the Benedictine order, " though with very small revenues. Edward " the Confessor rebuilt both the church " and abbey. He began the work in the " year 1049, and finished it 1066, endow- " ing it with the utmost munificence.

" Whether from the building falling to " decay, or otherwise, I know not, but " Henry the third caused the Saxon pile to " be pulled down, and the whole rebuilt in " its present magnificent state. In the " year 1245, he began this work, but did

" not

" not live to see it completed, it being " finished in the fourteenth year of his " successor. The roof was destroyed by " fire: but by the care of Edward and se- " veral of the abbots it was repaired in its " present beautiful state."

On entering the abbey, the grandeur and solemnity of the whole struck them forcibly; and Charles, addressing his father, said, " By the little I already see, sir, I should " think that, instead of a single morning, " it would take many days, nay, even " weeks, to explore and examine into all " the curious antiquities of this building."

They were then shewn the different chapels, and two hours had passed in the examination, when Mr. Richardson, who feared the coldness of the place might injure their health, gave them notice that it was time to return home; adding, that he would grant them a more minute inspection when the weather was milder; and that as they wished to look at Westminster-hall, they had now no more time to spare in the abbey.

He

He was immediately obeyed; and Mary, taking his hand, said, "My dear papa, "I used to think there could be no plea- "sure where the object did not divert "and make us merry; but I have dis- "covered, this morning, that opinion was "erroneous, for I feel exactly opposite to "cheerful, yet it is a sensation I would "not exchange for mirth."

"My beloved girl, I am charmed to hear "you begin to discriminate so properly; "nor can I refrain from repeating to you "the reflection Mr. Addison made in this "same spot. 'When I look back,' said he, on the tombs of the great, every emo- 'tion dies in me: when I read the 'epitaphs of the beautiful, every inordi- 'nate desire goes out: when I meet with 'the grief of parents on a tomb-stone, my 'heart melts with compassion: when I 'see the tomb of the parents themselves, 'and consider the vanity of grieving for 'those we must quickly follow—when I 'see Kings lying by those who deposed 'them—when I consider rival wits placed

'side

'side by side, or the holy men, that di-
'vided the world with their contests and
'disputes—I reflect with sorrow and asto-
'nishment on the little competitions, fac-
'tions, and disputes of mankind: when
'I read the several dates of the tombs—
'of some that died yesterday, and some
'six hundred years ago—I consider that
'great day, when we shall all of us be
'contemporaries, and make our appear-
'ance together.'

On reaching Westminster-hall, Mr. Richardson informed them it was built by William Rufus, or, more probably, rebuilt, as a large hall was ever a necessary appendage to a palace.

"We are informed." said he, "that
"in this hall, and the adjoining apart-
"ments, Henry the Third entertained, on
"New Year's day 1236, six thousand poor
"men, women, and children. It became
"ruinous before the reign of Richard the
"Second, who rebuilt it in its present
"form in the year 1397, and in 1399
"kept his Christmas in it, when twenty-

" eight oxen, three hundred sheep, and " fowls innumerable, were daily consumed, " the number of his guests being each day " ten thousand."

They then left Westminster-hall, and Mr. Richardson, with his children, entered the carriage. On passing Whitehall, he informed them that on that spot stood a palace, which, after the destruction of the ancient palace of Westminster by fire, became the residence of our Kings until it was almost wholly destroyed by the same element in the year 1697.

As they passed Charing-Cross, Mr. Richardson observed he had read that, in the year 1262, a hermitage stood near that spot; as also a chapel, dedicated to St. Catherine.

Charles replied, " What an alteration, " Sir! It is now one of the most popu- " lous parts of the town, nay, I wonder " it was not so then, as the court was " held at Westminster, for so many cen- " turies."

" Though the court was held there," answered Mr. Richardson, " there was

" no

" no conjunction between London and " Westminster until about the year 1533, " when a few scattered houses were erect- " ed, and, in 1560, a street formed, though " very loosely built, with large gardens, " and, on the south side, stairs to the river, " for the convenience of taking boat, " which at that period was the mode of " conveyance for great personages. The " Strand, in the year 1353, was an open " highway, with only some scattered no- " blemen's houses, with gardens to the " river, and so impassable for want of re- " pair, that, in the reign of Edward the " Third, a tax was laid on all goods carried " that way to Westminster, for the repair " of the road. The noblemen's houses " have since given way to the various " streets that branch from the Strand: " but their situation may still be known " by the names which have been pre- " served.

" In the reign of Queen Elizabeth the " people were so prosperous and secure, " that, by the year 1600, the buildings

" greatly increased, and many of the streets " completed, to the great convenience of " the city."

On their reaching home the conversation ceased, and the children retired to their apartments.

CHAP. XIX.

A Skill in Needle-work necessary to Females.---Gratitude of Charlotte Glover. ---Account of the Church of St. Mary Overie.---Monument of the Poet Gower. ---Of a Dwarf.---Epitaph on Richard Humble and his Family.

SOME few days the weather proving unfavourable, the children did not go out, but appeared perfectly satisfied at home; for if any little shadow of discontent was perceptible in the countenance or manners of Mary, Charles took such pains to repress and banish it, that, ashamed not to merit his kindness, she strove to be amused until some interesting subject caught her attention, and she was in reality so.

One morning Mr. Richardson sent for them down as soon as their lessons were concluded, and addressing them, said, "I "have, my dear children, procured some

" information this morning, which, I think, " will give you pleasure; therefore ring " the bell, Mary, and desire the house- " keeper to be called."

Mary obeyed, and the old gentlewoman presently appeared, with a roll of linen in her hand.

" Mrs Morton," said Mr. Richardson, " have you the address of Charlotte " Glover?"

" Yes, Sir: but if you wish to see her, " she is now in my apartment. She has " just brought home some shirts I gave her " to make for you; and though I have " seen a great deal of good work in my " life, I think I never saw any so well " made before."

As she spoke she presented the linen: but Mr. Richardson replied, " I am no " judge, Mrs. Morton: shew them to " Mary---I should like her opinion."

Mary took one of the shirts, and examining it, said, " Indeed, papa, it seems " very neat: but, like you, I am not a " judge."

" A skil

" A skill in needle-work was not neces-
" sary in my education, Mary, but must
" be attended to in yours; for though I
" do not intend you to turn sempstress, I
" shall expect you to understand when
" work is properly executed, and to be
" able to give the needful orders respecting
" it."

Mary promised observance, and Mr. Richardson ordered Charlotte Glover to be sent up.

The appearance of this poor woman was much altered, and plainly evinced that the greater part of the sum Mr. Richardson had advanced had not been improvidently expended, as she was decently clothed, and very clean, though the materials of her dress were coarse.

Mr. Richardson having informed her that he was well satisfied with her work, advanced her a farther sum, saying, as before, it was to be placed to account.

Charlotte appeared almost overpowered with her gratitude: but, at length, she said, " Oh, Sir! God hath received my con-

" trition, and accepted my repentance,
" or he would not thus bless me. Next
" to him, all my thanks are due to you,
" whom, in this instance, he has made the
" agent of his will. I have now a com-
" fortable bed, a wholesome meal, and
" warm clothing---blessings I knew not
" the va'ue of, until the earth had been
" my bed, I had groaned with hunger,
" and had shivered for want of necessary
" raiment. May I ever, as at present, be
" sensible of my happiness, nor ever more
" deservedly forfeit it."

" I trust, you never will: but we are
" sometimes tried, in order to see whether
" the resolutions made in sickness and ad-
" versity will continue in health and pro-
" sperity. One of these trials, though in a
" humble degree, awaits you. The banker,
" who had your cash, I have inquired,
" out from the address Mrs. Morton, re-
" quested of you, and I have the plea-
" sure to inform you, that, in the course of
" a fortnight, all his affairs will be rein-

" stated, and your full sum of an hundred
" pounds paid."

Charlotte by no means appeared improperly elated with this intelligence, but after raising her eyes to Heaven for a moment, in silence, she answered, " Oh, Sir! how
" far beyond the knowledge of frail mor-
" tality is it to comprehend the wisdom
" and goodness of God! Had I received
" that money at my grandmother's death,
" it would have been expended, all my
" follies have remained uncorrected, and
" myself have been friendless. As it is,
" I trust, my vices are crushed: I have ob-
" tained your protection, and shall now
" have the means of exerting my industry,
" without being too great a burthen on
" your generosity."

Mr. Richardson assured her she might depend on his friendship to recommend her, if she continued to act properly; then dismissed her abruptly, to prevent receiving her thanks.

" And now, my children," said he,
" though we cannot take a regular excur-
" sion

" sion this morning, if you are inclined for " a ride, I shall be pleased with your com- " pany, as I have business to transact in " Southwark."

The children expressed their thanks, and were soon ready to accompany their father, who finding himself rather earlier than his appointment, left the carriage, at the request of Charles, to take a nearer view of the Church of St. Mary Overie's, commonly called St. Saviour's.

" This church," said Mr. Richardson, in reply to the questions his children pressed on him respecting it, " appertained to the " religious house which was first founded " for maidens, as I before informed you, " by the piety of the boatman's daughter, " from the profits of the ferry, but after- " wards changed to a college of priests, " who built London bridge. The Bishop " of Winchester, in the reign of Henry " the First, built the conventual church, " which was probably burnt by the fire " which consumed the priory, in 1207, " for we find by the old writers, that it " was rebuilt in either the reign of King

" Richard

" Richard the Second or of Henry the " Fourth. On the dissolution of mo- " nasteries, it was purchased of the King " by the inhabitants of Southwark, and " converted by them into a parish church, " under the name of St. Saviour.

" I shall here, Charles, point out to " your notice the monument of one of " the most ancient of our English poets, " contemporary with Chaucer, and named " Gower. Chaucer died in the year 1400, " and Gower in 1402."

On examining the monument, the figure of the venerable poet is represented recumbent in a long gown, a chaplet of roses on his head, and three books under his feet; three figures above representing Charity, Mercy, and Piety, holding scrolls, with lines in French, intreating pardon for the soul of him that lieth underneath.

Though the monuments in this church could neither attract, by their number, nor beautiful sculpture, yet the antiquity of them greatly pleased Charles, while Mary,

Mary, more volatile, paid them little attention, until one particularly attracted her notice, by the account she received from the man who attended them.

"My dear Charles," said she, running to him, for he had continued with his father, examining one he thought worthy of his notice, "come this way---here is one "erected to the memory of a dwarf: he "is represented lying on a mat in his "shroud, and is said to have been but one "foot three inches in height, and died at "the advanced age of ninety-two, in the "year 1575."

"I will attend you presently, Mary," replied Charles: "but, by my father's per-"mission, will first transcribe the epitaph "on Richard Humble and his family."

EPITAPH.

Like to the damask rose you see,
Or like the blossom on the tree,
Or like the dainty flower of May,
Or like the morning of the day,
Or like the sun, or like the shade,
Or, like the gourd which Jonas had:

E'en

E'en so is man, whose thread is spun,
Drawn out and cut, and so is done.
The rose withers, the blossom blasteth,
The flower fades, the morning hasteth,
The sun sets, the shadow flies,
The gourd consumes, and man he dies.

"These lines are really very pleasing, "Charles," said Mr. Richardson, "and "much more worthy of observation than "Mary's dwarf."

"Sir, returned Mary, blushing, "I "overlooked that epitaph; though now "I hear it I think it very pretty."

"So will it ever be, my love, with those "who run eagerly forward to divert their "eyes, and neglect the more slow, but "solid amusements of the mind. But "come—never look grave: proceed in "improving as you have begun, and I "shall have no reason to complain. We "will now take a view of this dwarf, "after which I must hasten to my appoint-"ment; for it is now nearly the hour, "and want of punctuality, though even "in trifling business. I have a peculiar "aversion to."

CHAP.

CHAP. XX.

A Visit from a Stranger.—Frank and Patty meet with a Relation.

THE ensuing morning being clear and frosty, Mr. Richardson had promised his young people a long ramble, and they were just ready to depart, when the servant announced a gentleman, whose name Mr. Richardson did not immediately recollect.

The party being thus broken upon was by no means pleasing to Mary: but checking her discontent, she whispered to Charles, "I wish we had been gone; however, I "hope we shall not long be detained."

The stranger entered. He was about the middle age, of a pleasing countenance, though apparently much sun-burnt. "I "am sorry, Sir," said he, addressing Mr. Richardson, "for the trouble I occasion "you, but hope, from the goodness you "have shewn the little runaways, Francis

"and

" and Martha, that you will excuse it.
" My name is Williams, and I have scarce-
" ly any doubt, from every circumstance,
" that they are my brother's children; for
" since your obliging letter, I have traced
" them to several places on my journey."

Mr. Richardson welcomed him cordially, replying, that he hoped he would meet no disappointment. " The young people," added he, " are at my house at Acton; I " am disengaged to-day, and if you will " favour us—the coach is at the door—we " will immediately go thither. I promised " my children some recreation this morn-" ing, and I know this event will give them " great pleasure."

Few words were lost in compliments; and entering the carriage, Mr. Richardson gave orders to drive to Acton. In the way thither, Mr. Richardson easily discovered that Mr. Williams was a man of understanding, and the satisfaction he expressed in the hope of hereafter protecting his brother's children, with his gratitude to their benefactor, gave evident proofs of the goodness of his heart.

They had no sooner alighted than Mr. Richardson inquired for the young folks, when the person who officiated as housekeeper there, and who was mentioned before as so speedily dressing Patty, replied, "They are both at school, Sir, as you "ordered, until your farther pleasure con-"cerning them was known. I expect them "home in half an hour, but must tell you, "in their absence, that your bounty was "never better bestowed; for the boy is "active and industrious when at home--- "and for the girl, she is so modest and "obliging, that you cannot do better than "continue her in the house."

Mr. Williams appeared greatly pleased with this intelligence; and Mr. Richardson, judging that he must be anxious to see and be ascertained respecting them, ordered his servant to fetch them home immediately.

On their arrival, they were sent into the the parlour, where having paid their compliments, Mr. Richardson desired the stranger to ask what questions he thought necessary.

Frank regarded Mr. Williams with no pleasant

pleasant aspect, for, as he confessed afterwards, he dreaded that he was come to remove him from his present happy situation; and Patty, who shared his fears, drawing nearer to Mary, said, in a tremulous whisper, "Dear Miss! do not let us "be taken away from you!"

Mary could only answer by pressing her hand; for Mr. Williams, fixing his eyes on Frank, said, "Of what country was your "father, young man?"

"My father, Sir," answered he, "was "born at Exeter; but marrying my mo-"ther, who was of Warwickshire, he set-"tled in her country, as she had then an "aged mother, and he had no parents "surviving."

"But had your father no relations?" said Mr. Williams.

"None, Sir, living. He had a brother, "who went abroad, above twenty years "ago, with a gentleman who brought him "up; but they were both in battle, and "never heard of afterwards."

"Your father, then, concluded he was "dead?" said Mr. Williams.

"Ah, Sir! he was dead, sure enough!" answered Frank. "I have heard my poor "father talk of him till the tears would "run down his cheeks---for they were "twins---and I believe there was nothing "in the world he valued so much as a "prayer-book and a little flagelet which "he preserved for his sake. The book he "gave to the care of my mother, and the "pipe he always carried about him, and "when our goods were sold, those were all "that were preserved."

Mr. Richardson desired them to be shewn to the stranger, who had no sooner examined them than he exclaimed, "It is "enough---I have no longer any doubts. "My own initials are on the pipe, and in "the book I recognize my brother's hand-"writing."

A word from Mr. Richardson to his children, made them take Frank and Patty by the hand, and leading them to their uncle, Mr. Richardson said, "Pay your duty to "your nearest relation, and endeavour to "merit his kindness by your good be-"haviour;

" haviour; and never forget, that by your " hasty imprudence you have long pro- " tracted this meeting, and, but for the " goodness of God, might have forfeited " every claim to it."

Frank and Patty knelt before Mr. Williams, but each kept fast hold of the hand of their youthful protector until their uncle, pressing them in his arms, the voice of nature and affection forced them, in some measure, to return his caresses.

The first surprise over, the day passed pleasantly: but Patty did not fail to observe to her brother, when alone, that for her part she knew not how to think such a gentleman her relation, and that she should be ashamed to call him uncle.

" If he is not ashamed to own us, Patty," answered Frank, " I think we may be " proud to call him so, and shew him the " same duty as a father; though I cannot " but hope he will not take us from hence, " for it would be the study of my life to " shew I was grateful."

" I am sure, answered Patty, " I shall

" never forget Mr. Richardson's goodness,
" or dear Miss Mary's kindness, in feeding
" and clothing us---nay, even taking in our
" poor dog Shock, who is grown as fat,
" and seems as happy as we are."

" My only wish is," replied Frank, that
" my uncle had come home while our
" poor father and mother lived: but I hope
" they are in Heaven, Patty, and better
" off than even we are now."

CHAP. XXI.

Adventures of Mr. Williams the Surgeon, and the Rajah Ali Saab.

In the evening, all being placed round a chearful fire, Charles and Mary by the side of their father, and Frank and Patty by their uncle, Mr. Richardson said, addressing Mr. Williams, "You must either "have had some powerful reason, or "great misfortune, that could estrange "you so many years from your family, and "I should rather fear the latter; for if I "judge from your present conduct, you "would not willingly have deprived your-"self of a correspondence with them."

"Indeed, Sir," replied Mr. Williams, "you are perfectly right in your conjec-"ture. Nothing but necessity could so "long have separated me from a brother, "whom I ever tenderly loved; and if it "would not be wearying you, I would "relate the various events that occasioned "it."

"On

" On thecontrary," returned Mr. Richardson, " it would give me the highest " pleasure, if not intruding too much on " you."

Mr. Williams bowed and answered, " A " friend like you, Sir, that will condescend " to hear, has a right to be informed of " every particular."

Adventures of Mr. Williams, the Surgeon, and the Rajah Ali Saab.

" I must inform you, Sir, that the father " of these children and myself were left " orphans, at the early age of twelve years; " on which event my brother was appren- " ticed to a weaver at Exeter, and myself " taken by a Surgeon in the town, who " was my godfather. This gentleman " treated me with the tenderness of a pa- " rent, and my education having been " hitherto neglected, took the utmost " pains to instruct and improve me; so " that by the time I attained my eighteenth " year I was accounted a good scholar, and

" not

" not an indifferent surgeon. My master,
" Mr. Smith, was also kind, in number-
" less instances, to my brother: but he
" was too liberal to be rich; and a trades-
" man failing, to whom he had advanced
" a large sum, he unavoidably became a
" bankrupt, having neither wife no
" children, he determined to seek prefer-
" ment and fortune abroad, and for that
" purpose, engaged himself as surgeon to
" a regiment bound to the East Indies.
" Sorry as I was to leave my brother, I
" could not abandon so good a master,
" particularly as he was unfortunate, and
" therefore entreated to accompany him
" as his assistant, which was readily grant-
" ed. We left my brother all the little
things we could possibly spare, and,
" among others, the prayer-book and fla-
" gelet; my master, out of a trifling sum
" he had advanced, also presented him
" with four guineas, and promising not
" to forget him when more was in our
" power.

" We were tolerably quiet for the first
" nine months after our arrival in India,

" but

" but at that period we had a dreadful
" conflict with a neighbouring Rajah, in
" which our army was defeated with
" great slaughter, and, among many others,
" Mr. Smith and myself made prisoners,
" and carried farther up the country, from
" whence not being able to send any in-
" telligence, and never, after the battle,
" being heard of, doubtless arose the re-
" port of our death.

" The Rajah Heider Cawn, into whose
" hands we had fallen, was among the
" most ferocious rulers of the Indian na-
" tions, and many of our unhappy com-
" panions in captivity, were either put to
" death, or died by the more lingering
" tortures of want in dungeons, secluded
" from day. Happily Mr. Smith's pro-
" fession being known saved him; for the
" Indians have, in general, a high opinion of
" European surgeons. On his examina-
" tion, he was therefore liberated, and
" having, by means of the interpreter, in-
" formed them that I was his assistant, and
" prompted by humanity, adding I was

" equally

" equally skilful, I was also released,
" with this mutual order, that if we of-
" fered to leave the capital, we should be
" immediately put to death.

" Not to weary you with an uninterest-
" ing detail---we remained six years in the
" Rajah's dominions, during which time
" a peace took place with the English:
" but our captivity being unknown, we
" were detained, and entirely cut off from
" all communication with our country-
" men. About the expiration of this
" time I had the misfortune to lose
" my respected friend Mr. Smith, by a
" fever—a circumstance that redoubled
" the horrors of captivity, and determined
" me at all events to endeavour to escape
" as speedily as possible. No opportunity,
" however, offered for above a year; dur-
" ing which, though I was treated as well
" as so cruel a tyrant was capable of, yet
" I was daily witness of such acts of op-
" pression and cruelty, that my whole
" thoughts were bent on flight, however
" dangerous the experiment.

" Adjoining

" Adjoining the extremity of the Ra-
" jah Heider's country, though divided
" by a prodigious chain of mountains,
" was a smaller, but far more fruitful do-
" main, governed by a Prince, who, satis-
" fied within his own limits, dwelt in
" peace, blessed in his family, and beloved
" by his subjects. The happiness of this
" Rajah, who was named Doual Saab, was
" too great not to occasion jealousy and
" enmity in the bosom of his tyrannical
" neighbour, who had also a stronger in-
" centive to urge his cupidity: he was
" allied by blood to Doual Saab, and in
" case of the death of either without chil-
" dren, the survivor was heir to the whole
" territory.

" Doual Saab had an only son of twelve
" years old, the future hope of both coun-
" tries—a circumstance that redoubled
" Heider's rancour to his cousin, as he
" had no children; he therefore caused his
" army to be collected as for an attack
" upon the English settlements, but in-
" stead of that expedition, he poured them
" into

" into the country of his unsuspecting
" neighbour, plundering and laying waste
" wherever he came. To complete his in-
" tent, he surprised a country-house where
" the young Prince Ali Saab resided, and
" bore him away. Doual Saab was too
" greatly beloved not, in this extremity,
" to find in every subject a soldier; and
" all joining against the common enemy,
" he was soon driven back with great
" slaughter, to his own dominions, but
" bore the young Ali with him, demand-
" ing so high a ransom that he knew it
" could not be readily paid; but at the
" same time promising to treat the youth
" with all possible kindness.

" On his return to his dominions, when
" I was admitted into his presence, I could
" not but observe that he spoke to me
" with more kindness than usual, and de-
" sired I would particularly attend to Ali,
" who, from the fatigue he had sustained,
" and the sorrow he had felt on being torn
" from his parents, had every symptom of
" a dangerous fever.

" On my first visit to the fortress where " he was kept, I was at once pleased and " interested with his appearance. He was " uncommonly fair for that country, and " in his manners truly amiable. On ex- " amining his pulse, I found it necessary " for him to lose a little blood, to which, " at first, he appeared averse; but after a " moment's consideration, looking stead- " fastly at me, he said, in rather imperfect " English, " You are an European surgeon " and a Christian."

" Astonished at this address, and to " hear him speak English, I replied in the " affirmative, assuring him the operation " was very trifling, and that he need not " fear me. " I do not fear you," answered " he, holding out his arm: " my mother " is an European; she loves the same God " you love, and I know you will not hurt " me."

" I cannot describe to you the effect " this speech had upon me. I could will- " ingly have pressed the little sufferer to " my bosom, but was restrained by the

" presence

" presence of the keeper, and therefore
" simply replied, that I had no doubt of
" his being speedily well; and immediately
" let him blood, which he suffered me to
" do without opposition.

" From my long residence in India I
" spoke the language perfectly, and there-
" fore learnt from the keeper that Doual
" Saab had, fifteen years before, married
" the daughter of an European merchant,
" and to whom he was so tenderly at-
" tached, that it was strongly suspected
" he had adopted their religious tenets.—
" This intelligence increased my interest
" for the child, who, in a fortnight, was
" greatly recovered, and by a hundred
" little affectionate actions shewed his gra-
" titude for the care and attention I had
" paid him.

" I thought it was necessary to inform
" Heider Cawn that air and exercise were
" necessary to complete his cure, and
" therefore attended one morning at the
" hour of audience; but he received my
" information with a frown, and ordered

" me to his closet, where he soon after
" joined me. " I have been deceived," said
" he: " I thought the disease of Ali dan-
" gerous, but to day thou sayest that air
" and exercise are alone wanting to com-
" plete his cure." I replied, that at first
" Ali's disorder had very dangerous symp-
" toms, but that youth, and a good habit
" of body, had repelled them.

" Heider muttered something unintelli-
" gible between his closed teeth; then
" fixing his fierce eyes on me, he said,
" Hast thou not been well treated at my
" court ?"

" I bowed assent—for whatever my
" thoughts were, I did not dare express
" them.

" Canst thou be faithful, then ?" resum-
" ed he. " Canst thou, by one act, raise
" thyself to merit my friendship and cer-
" tain honour ?

" This question, though I knew not why,
" startled me: but his complexion was
" even more gloomy than usual, his eyes
" sparkled with redoubled ferocity, and

" his

" his dark brows were knit into a frown
" of horror.

" I replied, that hitherto I had given
" him no cause for complaint in whatever
" he thought fit to entrust me.

" Then listen to thy master," replied he.
" I had hopes, from the accounts I re-
" ceived, that death would have released
" that boy from my power—for never shall
" the son of a Christian slave inherit my
" crown and kingdom. Mark me, then:
" though my hopes have failed, thou canst
" easily administer to him a dose of poison,
" and he will simply appear to have sunk
" under a return of his disorder.

" Imagine the horror I felt at this
" dreadful proposal. For some moments
" I was unable to reply: but a sudden
" reflection struck me, that if I did not
" apparently comply, some of his wicked
" agents, less scrupulous than myself,
" might effect it. I therefore, though not
" without hesitation, answered, that if he
" insisted, I must obey: but thought,
" with submission, that it was better that

" the prince should remain confined some " days longer, as, from a relapse of his " malady, which might give his death the " more colour of arising from it.

" Thou speakest well,' replied he. " But " why tremblest thou? and wherefore flies " the blood from thy cheek? Think only " of what awaits thee !"

" More discourse of the same kind " passed, but too horrible to relate, and I " was under the cruel necessity of appear- " ing to agree to all he required, or to " have met with certain death, without " saving the innocent child.

" At length, to my great satisfaction, " he dismissed me, with a strict charge of " secrecy, the smallest deviation from " which he declared should doom me to " certain death."

CHAP. XXII.

Continuation of the Adventures of Mr. Williams the Surgeon, and the Rajah Ali Saab.

" THE young Ali was accordingly con-
" fined for some days to his apartment—
" a report spread that his health was worse
" than before, and that he was deemed in
" the utmost danger. This news reached
" the unhappy Doual Saab and his wife,
" who in vain offered their whole domi-
" nions as security for the ransom of the
" child.

" While my mind was almost in a state
" of distraction how to evade the cruel de-
" signs of the Rajah—at all events to save
" the child from his murderous intent, and
" myself, if possible, from his power—
" Heaven pointed out the means, and
" clearly proved that innocence is its pe-
" culiar care; and that though guilt may

contrive

" contrive its fall, and confine it with bars
" and bolts of iron, yet it has an indivisible
" Protector, before whom the arm of
" wickedness becomes as powerless as the
" feather before the wind.

" Gourah, the keeper of the youthful
" Ali, was suddenly seized with a com-
" plaint in his stomach, of so violent a na-
" ture, that it occasioned convulsions, and
" his life was despaired of. In this ex-
" tremity he requested my advice; when
" a sudden idea presented itself to my
" mind, and having made every one leave
" the room, I said, that though his ma-
" lady was highly dangerous, and such as
" I truly believed beyond all Indian skill,
" yet I flattered myself I possessed the
" means of relieving it, but would not ex-
" ert myself to restore him, unless he
" would first promise, by all he held most
" sacred in his faith, to grant me a request
" I had to make, and likewise to keep it
" secret. The pangs of the keeper were
" too violent for him long to demur; he
" took the vow I required, and I admini-

stered

" stered medicines that in a few hours re-
" lieved him.

" I owe thee my life!" said he. " What
" hast thou to demand of me? I swore to
" grant it. I guess it to be that I may as-
" sist in thy escape to the English settle-
" ments; and could any means be devised,
" would willingly contribute."

" Escape is indeed part of my request,"
" answered I: " but not only mine, but
" that of the youthful Ali, whom his un-
" natural cousin means to poison. I speak
" openly—I will save him, or perish in the
" attempt. I depend upon thy oath: I
" saved thy life, and will not suppose that
" in return thou wilt betray me to death."

" Never," replied he. " But dost thou
" consider the danger of the attempt, and
" that if thou shouldst fail, inevitable death
" will attend us both?"

" I am willing to brave every danger,
" to save the innocent child," replied I:
" the God whom I serve will sustain me.
" And what are thine, if thou canst doubt
" their protection in such a cause? Thou

hast

" hast neither wife nor children: give us
" the means of flight, and fly with us.
" Think what reward the Rajah Doual
" Saab will bestow on him that saves his
" child!"

" The keeper asked until to morrow to
" consider on the subject, but renewed his
" promise at all events not to betray my
" confidence.

" The day following, the Rajah sent for
" me, and being admitted to a private au-
" dience, he said, " The necessary time is
" elapsed: if thou meanest to serve me, do
" so, or take the consequence. Fortune
" and honours await thee, or torments and
" death: choose—the alternative is before
" thee."

" I replied, with some hesitation, that
" the choice was soon made, and only de-
" sired three days to complete my design,
" or I would willingly yield my forfeit
" life.

" He appeared somewhat appeased by
" this reply. I was dismissed, and went
" immediately to the keeper Gourah, to

" whom

" whom I related this discourse, adding " every thing I could surmise to win him " to my purpose. I had the pleasure not " to fail. Though his fears were very " powerful, yet he was not wicked enough " to hear of so villainous an action without " horror; and after much conversation on " the subject, he said, " If thy intention " can be brought to bear, I must accom- " pany thee and the young Ali, for my " life would pay the forfeit of my trust."

" I then consulted on the best means to " pass the guards that surrounded the for- " tress, and also how to procure horses to " reach the chain of mountains that divid- " ed Heider's kingdom from that of Doual " Saab.

" Listen," replied he, " and be thank- " ful that thou hast in this case applied to " the only person that could assist thee. " Under this fortress is a subterraneous " passage that leads to the Pagoda: if we " escape, it must be that way; for I have " a brother, who is high-priest—he I have " this morning spoken with, and he has

" consented

" consented to let us pass: but we must
" make no stay there, as it would but in-
" volve him in our danger if we should be
" discovered."

" All thus prepared, the evening ar-
" rived that I was to perform my promise
" to the Rajah—which was to *complete my*
" *design*, or yield my forfeit life. I saw
" him that day, and his brutal nature al-
" ready anticipated the event he wished;
" and bidding me be resolute, he pre-
" sented me a valuable diamond, and dis-
" missed me.

" I am resolute," replied I---" I neither
" tremble now, nor turn pale. I will *exe-*
" *cute my purpose*, or perssh in the at-
" tempt; and you shall at least own
" that I have soared above what you ex-
" pected."

" He then ordered that I should attend
" the prince during the night, and I left
" him, with a strict command to send him
" notice when he expired.

" On leaving the Rajah, I hastened to
" the fortress, and passed some time in
" consultation

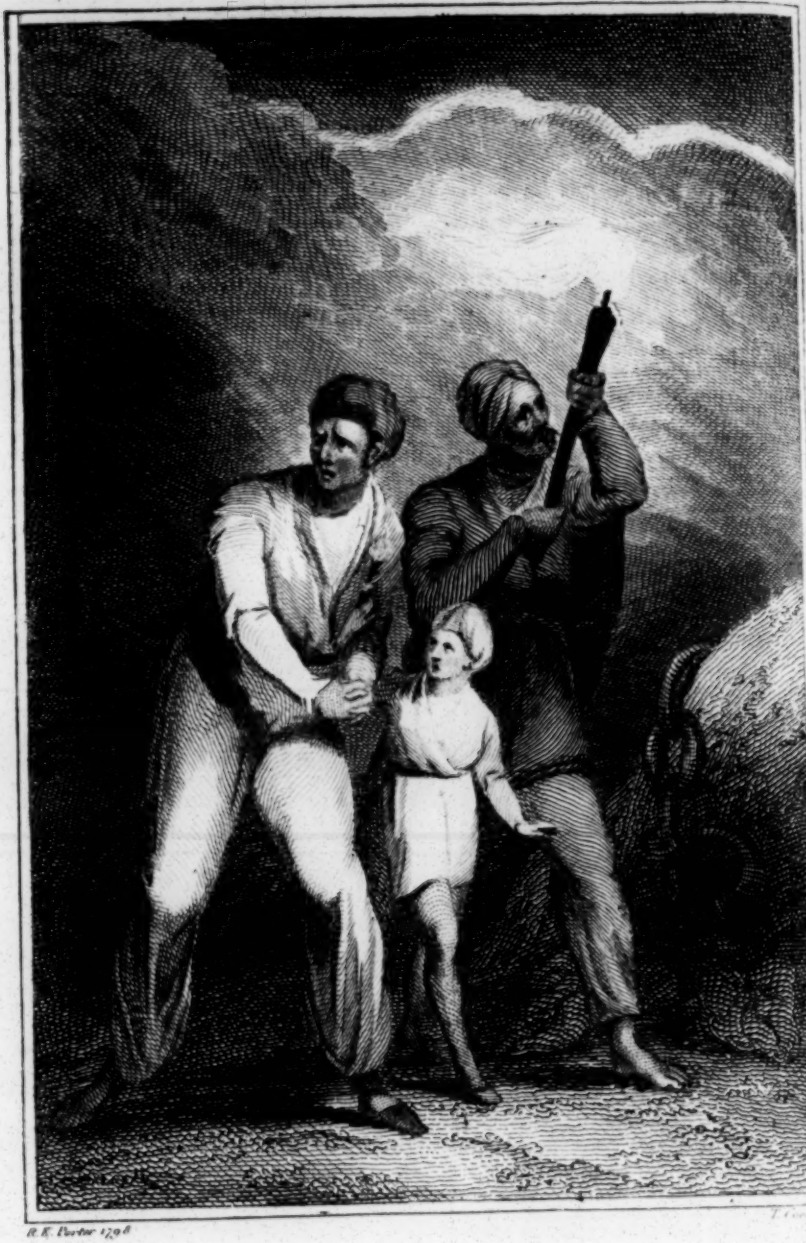
" consultation with Gourah on the means " we should adopt. About eight in the " evening the Rajah sent to inquire of the " health of Ali, doubtless with a view to " hasten me. I returned for answer, that " his situation required the exertion of " all my knowledge: but by six the next " morning I hoped the Rajah would be " convinced of my skill.

" This evasive reply in some measure " quieted him; and, convinced that I " meant to perform his execrable inten- " tions, we were suffered to remain un- " disturbed. We had now no time to " lose. I gave the young Ali, in few " words, to understand the intention of " his cousin, and that we had no means " of safety but flight, and to endeavour to " gain his father's kingdom.

" The innocent boy had become so at- " tached to me, that he readily gave credit " to what I said, and expressed his pleasure " at the expectancy of seeing his parents. " Gourah had provided three dresses like " those worn by the travelling beggars of

" the country, and putting them on, he
" smeared my face and that of the young
" Ali with a liquid that made us appear
" even yet darker than the real natives;
" for I have before observed, that Ali in-
" herited from his mother nearly the com-
" plexion of an European. Our hair he
" next cut off; and thus accoutred, with
" a torch we descended into the subterra-
" neous passage that led to the Pagoda,
" taking every precaution that the way we
" fled might not be discovered. The
" vault was dark and gloomy, and the pale
" glimmer of a single torch was only suf-
" ficient to shew the horrors of the place;
" on each side of which were recesses in
" the earth, where many unhappy prison-
" ers had doubtless been confined; as to
" the aperture of each was fastened a
" heavy iron chain. Gourah trembled,
" and could not avoid expressing his fears,
" saying, " Alas! why did you not suffer
" me to die in my sickness? Death then
" would not have been so dreadful as it
" will be if we are overtaken, for we shall

" be



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"Fear nothing, the God of the Christians will protect us

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" be doomed to suffer all that the art and
" malice of cruelty can invent."

" Fear nothing," returned I, disguising
" my own sentiments in order to inspire
" him with courage : " my heart whispers
" we shall accomplish this attempt ; or if
" we fail, we will die like men who have
" boldly dared in a just cause and pre-
" ferred death to executing the commands
" of a tyrant."

" Ah, Gourah," said the young Ali,
" in the Indostan language, in which we
" were conversing, " fear nothing---the
" God of the Christians will protect us ;
" for my mother says that he sees and
" knows every thing : he therefore knows
" we are in this dark vault, and can save
" us from the Kajah ; for I dare say it was
" from her prayers that God inspired the
" surgeon Williams to save me, and you
" to assist him."

" Gourah made no reply, and we has-
" tened quickly forward until we reached
" a grated door, where, he informed us,
" his brother waited for us. On the ap-

" proach of the light the door opened, and " after passing several avenues, we found " ourselves in a spacious temple. Here we " passed but a few moments, the priest " being fearful of being discovered by any " of his companions; and leading us to a " small private door, he dismissed us, say- " ing, that at the end of the colonade, " within the thick grove, we should find " two fleet horses, ready accoutred, which " he had placed there by his brother's de- " sire, who was unwilling to trust any one " else in so important a business.

" Leaving the priest, we soon reached " the grove, when placing the child be- " fore me on one horse, and Gourah mount- " ing the other, we used the utmost speed, " and by six the next morning found our- " selves about thirty-five miles from the " capital.

" We had still forty miles before we " reached the chain of mountains that se- " parated the countries; and our appear- " ance of beggars ill agreeing with such " fleet horses, we were obliged to conceal

" ourselves,

" ourselves, during the day, in a thick
" wood, for we had no doubt but the
" Rajah would scour the whole country to
" find us. Our horses secured, Ali, over-
" come with fatigue, dropped asleep on the
" sod, and Gourah went into a hamlet at
" some distance, where he procured food,
" whose price corresponded with the hu-
" mility of his appearance. This refreshed
" us greatly, and, at the close of day, re-
" mounting our horses, we used the utmost
" diligence until morning, when the chain
" of mountains appeared in sight. We
" passed the day as the former, Gourah
" going, as before, for food. On his re-
" turn we were greatly alarmed: he had
" seen at a distance on the open plain, a
" large body of cavalry, which, there
" could be no doubt, were in search of us;
" we therefore thought it prudent to re-
" main in the wood much later than usual,
" and did not venture out till near mid-
" night, when we proceeded in silence,
" listening and trembling at every noise.
" On reaching the mountains, we conclud-

" ed that our horses would be more trouble
" than service, and therefore unbridling
" them, we turned them loose into a ver-
" dant spot, and soon after entered a nar-
" row defile of the rocks, where it was
" impossible for any horsemen to pass.
" Ali was so overpowered with fatigue, that
" Gourah and myself alternately carried
" him; and as we neither heard nor saw
" any thing to alarm us, continued our
" way until evening, when we arrived at
" an opening, with a small plantation of
" rice, on the side of a mountain, that ap-
" peared more fruitful than the rest. The
" sight awakened my fears; I dreaded we
" were near some hamlet, and intreated
" Gourah to remain where we were until
" night: but the young Ali replied, that
" he had particularly observed that spot as
" he passed the mountains with Heider,
" and that there was no dwelling but the
" hut of a bramin. As Gourah was of
" the same opinion, we continued our way;
" and we had not gone far when we reached
" a thatched dwelling, which we knew, from

" its

" its appearance, to belong to one of those " recluses. The venerable old man was " himself seated at a small distance, when " Gourah, who was spokesman, advanc- " ing towards him, said, " Father, bestow " on us poor wanderers some food for cha- " rity: we have travelled far, and are al- " most sinking with fatigue and hunger."

" The bramin rose and said, " Ye are " welcome to share what I possess;" and " leading the way into his hut, placed " boiled rice and roots before us. The " apparent sanctity, charity, and whole " demeanour in the old man made me judge " we were fallen into good hands; and in " our conversation after our vegetable din- " ner, I ventured to ask him whether he " was a subject of Heider Cawn or Doual " Saab.

" Though I dwell," said he, " on the " boundaries of both kingdoms, I was born " on the state appertaining to the father of " Doual Saab; and though the people un- " der that prince enjoy every comfort a na- " tion can expect from a governor, yet as

" man's life is short, and his errors many,
" I retired hither in order to shun those in-
" ticements to folly I must otherwise en-
" counter. The wholesome fruits of the
" earth provoke no hardships to restrained
" passions, nor doth the water of the brook
" bereave us of reason. I have no money,
" nor have I use for any—what I have I
" freely give. My hand is against no man,
" and no man's hand is against me; here I
" live in peace, and trust to die the same."

" I was on the point of replying to this
" respectable man, when, from the echoes
" of the rocks, I thought I could discover
" at a distance the sound of martial music.
" Gourah heard it as well as myself, and
" trembled universally; while the youthful
" Ali, clasping my neck, exclaimed, Alas!
" I shall never more see my dear father and
" mother! It is the music of my cruel
" cousin! But he shall kill me before he
" tears me from your arms."

" Ali's words, and our dangerous situa-
" tion, made concealment superfluous; I
" therefore related, in few words, the truth

" to

" to the bramin, who appeared, while I " spoke, to examine us with the most mi- " nute exactness——"

The relation was here interrupted by the entrance of supper, and the conclusion, greatly to the disappointment of the young people, obliged to be deferred.

CHAP. XXIII.

Return to London.—An Excursion to Chelsea. A Visit to the College and the Church.—Uncommon Valour of Mrs. Spragg.---On the Courage necessary for Females.

CHARLES and Mary were equally anxious, on the following morning, to hear the conclusion of Mr. Williams's story, but met with a disappointment, as their father received a letter which required his immediate attendance.

" Dear me, papa!" said Mary, when alone

alone with her father and brother, "how "provoking! I wished greatly to have "heard the conclusion of Mr. Williams's "relation---and now we must go to town!"

"Though I wish it equally with your-"self, Mary," answered her father, "yet I "cannot help smiling when I recollect how "displeased you appeared when Mr. Wil-"liams was first announced; yet you find "he now interests you more than any thing "else. Is not this a certain proof that we "should never form hasty judgments? "This jaunt to town may be equally pro-"ductive: or should it not, we shall at "leaft return equally curious."

Mr. Richardson intreated Mr. Williams, in so friendly a manner, to use his house at Acton while convenient, that he accepted his invitation, saying, that until Mr. Richardson's return, he would endeavour to form a more intimate acquaintance with his nephew and niece.

The coach being ready, Mr. Richardson departed for London, where he was so much engaged for near a week, that he could not

not share in any of the pursuits of the young people.

At length he informed them that he was at leisure to pass a day or two in the country, and both entered the carriage with great glee, but felt some little drawback on their pleasures when Mr. Richardson informed them that he was necessitated to stop at Chelsea by the way, on business. The gentlemen where they called intreated them so warmly to dine, that Mr. Richardson could not refuse, and the day passed more pleasantly than either of the young people expected; for as it was early, they spent the morning in viewing the college, and other objects worth notice.

"Pray, papa," said Mary, "is not this "building for the same purpose as that at "Greenwich?"

"With this difference, Mary: that is "for seamen---this for soldiers. It was "also begun by King Charles the Second, "continued by James the Second, and "completed by King William. The first "promoter of this charity was Sir Stephen

"Fox,

" Fox, who contributed 13,000l. towards " it. It was built by Sir Christopher " Wren on the site of an old college that " had fallen to the crown, and the expence " estimated at 150,000l."

The children having examined the building, expressed their pleasure at the decorum and neatness of the whole; their guide informing them that there was accommodation for above four hundred veterans, who were supplied with clothes, diet, washing, and lodging, and that the out-pensioners amounted to several thousands, who had each 7l. 12s. 6d. annually.

" The support and allowance of so nu- " merous a body must, in the year, amount " to a prodigious sum," said Charles.

" It does, indeed," answered Mr. Richardson, " but it is defrayed by a small " deduction out of the pay of the army, " and one whole day's stipend yearly from " each officer and common soldier; and, " in cases of deficiency, by a sum voted " by parliament."

The weather was too severe for them to pay

pay that attention to the physic-garden Mr. Richardson could have wished; he therefore contented himself with informing them, that it was given to the company of apothecaries, in the year 1621, by Sir Hans Sloane, on condition of their paying a quit-rent of five pounds, and delivering yearly to the Royal Society specimens of fifty different kinds of plants, till the number amounted to two thousand. In the year 1733, the company erected a marble statue to the donor in the centre of the garden, before which, towards the river, Mr. Richardson made them remark two beautiful cedars of Libanus.

Mary expressing a wish to see the church, they walked thither, when Mr. Richardson informed her, that in the chancel was laid the body of Sir Thomas More, "who," continued he, "was beheaded in the reign "of Henry the Eighth: but his head, after "being exposed fourteen days, was ob-"tained by his daughter, Mrs. Roper, and "preserved in a leaden case, and afterwards "buried with her in a vault in St. Dun-"stan's church, Canterbury."

Mr. Richardson then pointed out a monument erected by Sir Thomas More, to the memory of his two wives, with an inscription written by himself.

" Here is one," said he to Mary, " that " I must interpret to you, for I fancy " Charles is hardly Latin scholar enough; " though, to do him justice, he improves " rapidly. It is the monument of Mrs. " Spragg, only daughter of Edward Cham- " berlayne, doctor of laws, born, as it " expresses, in London, on the 20th of " January, 1667, and who, having long " declined marriage, and aspiring to great " atchievements unusual to her age and " sex, on the 30th of June, 1690, fought " valiantly, in man's apparel, for six hours, " against the French, on board a fireship, " under the command of her brother. " Returned from this engagement, after " some few months, she married John " Spragg, Esq. but died in childbed of a " daughter, on the 30th of October, 1691. " This monument was erected by her husband.'

" Bless

" Bless me, papa!" cried Mary, " what " a bold woman! I wonder she was not " afraid! I am sure I should not only have " been afraid of being killed myself, but " equally so of killing any one else."

" You are perfectly right, my love," replied her father. " What the incen- " tives of this lady might be I know not; " for without some extraordinary motive, " it was as unseemly for her to act thus, as " it would be for me to put on women's " clothes, and sit down to work embroi- " dery. Our Creator, who has appointed " each sex their particular duties, has made " men stronger than women; therefore de- " fence, powerful exertion, and the harder " kinds of labour, appertain properly to " them, as to the female doth the more " gentle duties of the household, the care " of infants, and the occupations of the " needle. We will, however, suppose, " that Mrs. Spragg's affection to her bro- " ther, or some powerful incentive, in- " fluenced her conduct—for a woman who " could act thus, unless strongly impelled,

" must, I should suppose, have made a
" very strange mistress of a family; for
" instead of conversing with her husband
" or friends, she would be fencing or
" shouldering a musket; and, in lieu of
" properly reproving her servants or chil-
" dren, beating, or, perhaps, killing them.
" I would, however, Mary, have you ob-
" serve, that I do not mean to inculcate
" cowardice; for a proper exertion in case
" of necessity is yet more praise-worthy
" in women than in men, because they
" are not usually, by constitution, either
" strong or valliant. Had the lady alluded
" to encouraged her brother by her dis-
" course, and calmed the fears he must
" necessarily have felt, to have the charge of
" a sister in an engagement, by her own
" placid behaviour, then retired, and bend-
" ing in private before her Creator, have
" entreated his protection---do you not
" think she would have been more truly re-
" spectable and interesting than enveloped
" with fire and smoke, and stained with
" blood, dealing death among the enemy?"

" A thou-

" A thousand times, my dear Sir," returned Charles: " but I fancy the cou-
" rage of Mrs. Spragg was an uncommon
" instance; for I have observed that ladies
" are usually very fearful—my sister Mary
" will scream at the sight of a mouse, or
" even at small insects."

" Such affected pusillanimity is yet more
" disgusting than assumed courage," replied his father; " and I should instantly
" conceive a very mean opinion of the un-
" derstanding of any one that should act
" thus. A mouse is not only an inno-
" cent, but also a very pretty creature;
" and I can conceive nothing more highly
" ridiculous than to see a person of four or
" five feet high running away from an ani-
" mal scarcely an inch from the ground."

" Indeed, papa," returned Mary, " I
" think, on reflection, it is very foolish,
" and I will endeavour not to be alarmed
" at them."

" You will do well, my love," answered he " for such fear is contemptible. Do
" you not constantly caress dogs and cats,

" which are an hundred times bigger, and
" have a far more ferocious appearance
" than mice? But you are accustomed to
" see them, and they therefore cause no
" apprehension."

" But they are tame, papa."

" So, doubtless, would mice, were they
" fed and used the same: but they have
" many enemies to fear, and therefore
" Nature has given them the instinct to
" conceal themselves in holes from the
" larger animals."

This conversation was continued until they reached the gentleman's house where they dined, and towards evening they continued their way to Acton.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXIV.

A good Disposition to be preferred to Genius or Acquirements.---Continuation of Mr. Williams's Story.

MR. Williams was rejoiced at the return of Mr. Richardson, nor were Frank and Patty less so, to see their youthful benefactors, with whom having for a short time withdrawn, Mr. Williams, in the warmest terms, expressed how sensibly he felt the obligations he owed to Mr. Richardson for his goodness to his distressed relatives.

Willing to change the discourse, Mr. Richardson asked him his opinion concerning them, as he judged that they were now become acquainted with each other.

"They want improvement, Sir," answered he: "but, thank God, they appear "to possess good natural dispositions; and "all the genius and acquirements in the "world,

" world, unless the innate principle of vir-
" tue direct them, are worthless, or only
" enable the possessors to soar to higher
" flights of wickedness, and increase their
" condemnation. I am therefore satisfied;
" and trust, as they appear virtuously dis-
" posed, to be able to make them all I
" wish.

The entrance of the children prevented more discourse; and all being drawn round the fire, Mr. Richardson requested Mr. Williams to continue his narrative.

Continuation of the Adventures of Mr. Williams the Surgeon, and the Rajah Ali Saab.

" THE bramin, after examining us some
" moments, replied, " Though I would,
" at the hazard of my life, succour suffer-
" ing virtue, yet I will never screen false-
" hood or vice. Who ye are, or what ye
" may have taught this boy, I know not:
" but of this I am certain, that he is not
" the son of the Rajah Doual Saab, as that
" child

" child is of the complexion of the Eu-
" ropeans; neither hast thou," continued he, fixing his eyes on me, " the appear-
" ance of that country, either in person or
" speech."

" Gourah and myself were both on the
" point of answering the bramin, when the
" young Ali, with wonderful quickness,
" tore open his vest, and shewing his bo-
" som, exclaimed, " Indeed, father, I am
" the son of the Rajah Doual Saab and the
" Princess Selima; and to convince you
" that I am so, do you not recollect, that
" as the Rajah Heider Cawn passed these
" mountains, after he had made me pri-
" soner, the soldiers all stopped to water
" their beasts at yonder well? and surely
" they must have greatly injured your
" rice-ground."

" This simple assurance at once satisfied
" the bramin. " I would not obstinately
" err against conviction," said he; " the
" child's natural complexion, I see, is
" fair, and it is as certain the troops wan-
" tonly galloped over the rice, never con-
" sidering

" sidering that it was my whole depend-
" ence for support. Follow me: I will do
" my best to save you."

" With these words he led the way to a
" deep hollow between the rocks, the en-
" trance to which was inclosed with moun-
" tain shrubs: pushing them aside, he
" pointed out a recess, where he assur-
" ed us we should be safe, at least for
" the night.

" By this time the music no longer
" echoed at a distance; it was near, and
" the clattering of arms, and noise of
" horses, made us ready to sink with ter-
" ror, though I exerted my utmost efforts
" to calm the fears of Gourah and those
" of the young Ali, who, clasped close in
" my arms, dared scarcely whisper for fear,
" until, nature exhausted, he dropped
" asleep. We remained in this situation
" for near six hours, for the last three of
" which we heard no noise, and gave way
" to the hope that they had retaken the
" road from the mountains; for we knew
" that, since the Rajah Heider's treacher-

" ous

" ous attack, Doual Saab's boundaries " have been so vigilantly guarded, that " they would not dare to attempt to pass " them. On the dawn of the morning " we heard the sound of steps, and in a " few minutes saw the bramin, with a " wicker basket in his hand—Children," said he, " I have brought you food, though " I believe you might safely come forth, " for I have watched the troops down the " mountains as far as my aged eyes could " discern them. It is better, however, to " remain where you are for a few hours " longer, than run any hazard. At mid- " day you shall again see me."

" Setting down the basket, he gave us " no time for thanks, but instantly de- " parted; and having refreshed ourselves " with the rice and roots he brought us, " we began to lose our fears, and waited " impatiently for his return. At the ap- " pointed hour he came, and bidding us " follow him, we returned to his hut.

" I have been employed," said he, " since I saw you, in climbing to the sum-

" mit

" mit of yonder mountains, from whence " I knew I could gain a sight of the troops, " and discovered them encamped on the " plains of Kinki, doubtless to recover " their fatigue; I think you, therefore, " perfectly safe. Rest here until to-mor- " row, then pursue your way."

" We related every circumstance of our " flight to the bramin, with whom we re- " mained all night; and having recruited " our strength and spirits by sleep, early " the next morning took leave of the good " man, whom we in vain intreated to ac- " company us, and present the young Ali " to his father. " No, my children," re- " plied he; " I think ye now safe; and " though I would venture my life in de- " fence of the son of my sovereign, yet " that duty is paid. Proceed in peace to " the Rajah's court, while I endeavour to " repair the damage done by the soldiers, " who have again laid waste my rice- " ground and destroyed my roots, by un- " heededly galloping over them."

" The youthful Ali, with the warmth

" that

" that marked his character, exclaimed,
" kissing his hand, " Ah! what trouble
" have I occasioned you! Never will my
" father forget it!"

" Neither do thou, Ali," answered he,
" ever forget the lesson of adversity thou
" hast received. Under the roof of thy
" father's palace, forget not the vicissi-
" tudes even the greatest are subject to;
" nor, reclined in voluptuous ease on so-
" fas of taffety under canopies of gold,
" forget the nights thou hast passed, with
" no pillow but the earth, and no cover-
" ing but the sky. Remember that prin-
" ces are men, subject to the same evils of
" body as the beggar, and, from the height
" they are placed, yet more a mark for
" envy and avarice to point at. When thou
" hearest thyself praised, remember that
" the voice of report magnifies the virtues
" of princes: so doth it also their errors.
" Remember that, placed aloof from the
" rest by fortune, duty demands that
" thou become equally conspicuous for
" virtue. Shun all enticements to evil,

" avoid wine and luxurious feeding, and " set thy dependants an example of recti- " tude and temperance, that will not only " make thee respectable in this world, but " gain thee the protection of that Power " that guides the whole universe. Farewell, " my son," continued he, laying his hand on his head; " be virtuous, prosperous, " and happy. Hasten to bless thy parents " with the certainty that thou livest, and " by thy attention to their precepts repay " their tenderness."

" As the bramin concluded, he pressed " the youthful Ali in his arms, then dis- " missed us, giving us a writing to this " import. " The bramin Seider-jai, of the " mountains, desires the commandant at " the boundaries to give safe and speedy " conduct, to the three travellers who de- " liver this, to the court of Doual Saab, as " they have business of the highest import " to his crown and happiness."

" We were so greatly recruited by sleep, " that we walked fast, and reached the " frontiers in two hours, where surrender-

ing

" ing ourselves to a guard, we desired to
" be taken before the commandant, to
" whom having presented the bramin's
" writing, he asked no question, though he
" observed us very accurately, but ordered
" a litter with mules to be prepared im-
" mediately. So complete was Ali's dis-
" guise, that it baffled all recollection;
" and pressing my hand, he said, in a low
" voice, " I conjure you not to tell any one
" who I am: let me have the happiness to
" discover myself first to my father."

" The litter was soon prepared; and
" such was the reverence shewn to the re-
" commendation of the holy man, that a
" guard was appointed us; and travelling
" all night, during which we securely slept,
" we reached the court of Doual Saab by
" the hour of eleven in the morning.
" The guard soon made known that we
" came by the recommendation of the bra-
" min Seder-jai, on business to the Rajah
" of the highest import; and though it
" was not yet the hour of audience, we

" were ordered into a chamber, where the
" Rajah soon after entered, unattended.

" His face, notwithstanding the dark-
" ness of his complexion, was perfectly
" noble and handsome; he was also tall
" and graceful, but appeared overwhelmed
" with melancholy. He viewed Gourah
" and myself for a moment with attention;
" then casting his eyes on his son, he
" started, when Ali, running forward,
" leaped into his arms, exclaiming, " My
" father! my father!"

" Change of complexion or habiliments
" could not stifle the voice of nature:
" Doual Saab embraced his son with trans-
" port, yet viewed him with silent asto-
" nishment, as well as Gourah and my-
" self.

" My dear father, continued Ali, be-
" fore Doual Saab had recovered his sur-
" prise sufficient to speak, " the good
" surgeon Williams saved me, and per-
" suaded the keeper Gourah to assist and
" fly with us."

" The Rajah, still pressing his son to his

" his bosom, asked an explanation of what
" he saw: but before we could answer him,
" he exclaimed, " Yet why do I ask? I
" thought my child dying, yet find him in
" health, though changed in complexion,
" and in the habiliments of a beggar."

" A few words explained all, which
" Ali's eagerness would not suffer any one
" else to perform; concluding his account
" with saying---" But for the surgeon
" Williams, my dear father, I should never
" have seen you more, and without Gourah
" we could never have escaped; and had
" not the bramin concealed us, we had
" been taken on the mountains. Thus all
" have contributed, and you will love them
" all."

" We then gave the Rajah a distinct ac-
" count of all that had passed: but to re-
" late his expressions of gratitude would be
" impossible. Suffice it, he promised us
" his protection; and if wealth, or the
" honours of his court, could repay the
" care of his son, we might command
" them.

" Ali then said, " My father, take me, " let me see my mother. Oh! how she " will rejoice when she knows that an Eu- " ropean and a Christian has saved me! " Let us lose no time in hastening to her."

" My dear Ali," answered the Rajah, " you must restrain your impatience until " your mother is prepared; she is sink- " ing under the report of your illness, and " hourly has been anticipating your death: " your sudden appearance might be fatal; " she must therefore be prepared for this " happiness by degrees, which I will my- " self undertake; in the mean time, with " your worthy friends, enter the bath, " which will cleanse you from the stain " that disguises you, and alſo assist in re- " moving the fatigue you have ſustained; " then take ſome refreſhment, and you shall " see your mother."

" Ali bowed obedience; and the Rajah " having repeatedly embraced him, order- " ed attendants to conduct us to the bath, " while he retired to inform the princess " Selima of the recovery of her son.

" Having

" Having entered the bath, I took es-
" pecial care to cleanse Ali as well as my-
" self from the colour; and, on leaving it,
" we were presented with three dresses,
" then adjourned to an apartment, where
" we found an excellent collation, but
" which we had hardly set down to, when
" we were disturbed by a female voice,
" exclaiming, " who shall restrain me?
" Am I not a mother? and who shall dic-
" tate to a mother's feelings?" The un-
" tasted morsel dropped from the hand of
" Ali, he rushed forward, the door opened,
" he flew to his mother's embrace, and,
" overpowered with pleasure, both remained
" speechless in each other's arms.

" When mutual endearments had given
" place to words, and the excess of sur-
" prise and pleasure were in some measure
" moderated, Ali presented Gourah and
" myself to his mother, who received us
" both with great kindness; though I could
" not but observe, that both the Rajah and
" his consort regarded me as the primary
" cause of their present happiness.

" On the following day we were intro-
" duced at the public audience, and re-
" ceived the thanks of the first people in
" the kingdom; the Rajah seated on his
" throne, the princess Selima, though against
" the established etiquette, on his left hand,
" and Ali at their feet. The Rajah first
" addressing Gourah, bade him demand a
" recompence adequate to his services.
" If thou preferrest the court, choose," said he; " or if thou art more inclined to
" a retired life, thou hast but to speak;
" a fortune awaits thee in either case, fit
" for me to give and thee to receive."

" Gourah chose a situation where he
" might be exempt from the cares attend-
" ant on a public life, and the Rajah in-
" stantly ordered him a large sum, a coun-
" try house, and a monthly stipend, that
" more than trebly compensated for what
" he had relinquished for his service. And
" now, Williams," said the Rajah, addressing me, " what recompence can I
" offer equal to thy deserts? But for thee,
" I had been childless, my son cropped

" like

" like an untimely flower, and my quiet " and fertile kingdom have devolved to a " murderer. Choose, then; I am ready " to grant thy request. There is but one " thou canst make will give me pain, and " that is, to lose thee."

" My design was undoubtedly to have " accepted a safe conveyance to the Eng- " lish settlements, for I had no doubt of " the Rajah's generosity: but the kindness " of his expression, the anxious looks of " the young Ali, for a moment made me " waver. But I at length replied, " Were " it not that I have a brother in my own " country, how happy should I deem my- " self ever to live under your protection, " to share your goodness, and witness the " growing virtues of your son, who, I " trust, will shew he was not preserved in " vain: but as it is, I frankly confess that, " surrounded with wealth, and favoured " with your approbation, I should still be " unhappy if I were uncertain of my bro- " ther's fate, or conceived him struggling " under sorrows that I could alleviate."

" Thy

" Thy desire is worthy thy character," replied the Rajah: " but could I find a way " to accomplish it without thy departure, " wouldst thou agree to it?" I replied in the affirmative.

" Know, then, that I frequently trade " with the European merchants, two of " whom are at my court; let them be " employed, on their return, to seek thy " brother, and supply him with wealth sufficient, if he prefers his own country: " but surely he will hasten to such a relative, and as thy brother will I receive " him."

" It was not in my power to withstand " such kindness, and I accepted it with " thanks, after which he repeated his commands that I should speak my wishes as " to my future destination.

" I replied, that under his protection I " had not a wish unsatisfied.

" Young Ali, who had remained silent " during the discourse, now said, " My dear " father, as the surgeon Williams will not

" choose

" choose for himself, suffer me to speak
" for him."

" Willingly," answered the Rajah, " if
" Williams has no objection."

" I declared I had none, but requested
" Ali not to over-rate my services. Ali
" paused for a few moments, then said,
" The health of my dear parents is one of
" my first concerns; Williams is particu-
" larly skilful; let him therefore be ap-
" pointed their first medical attendant. In
" the second place, though from my
" mother I have imperfectly learned the
" English language, which may hereafter
" be very serviceable to me, let him be
" appointed my tutor for that purpose.
" The stipend proper for these trusts my
" father is the best judge of, and to him I
" leave it: but to shew the sense of my
" obligation to the man that preserved my
" life, I beg, that, on all festivals and pub-
" lic appearances, he may walk by my side;
" so shall the people learn the sense I bear
" of obligation, and that benefits such as
" I have received, are not to be forgotten."

" The

" The Rajah embracing his son, de-
" clared his acquiescence; and I could but
" express the high sense I felt of the fa-
" vours conferred on me.

" Not to weary you—from this day I
" might be truly reckoned secondary to
" none in the state but the blood royal; the
" Rajah and his consort esteemed me, and
" Ali loved me almost equal to his parents.

" I should not omit to tell you, that the
" Rajah was not unmindful of the bramin:
" but pecuniary offers he well knew were
" to him unavailing; he therefore content-
" ed himself with personally thanking the
" good man, whom, with some difficulty,
" he persuaded to reside within his boun-
" daries.

" I must now return to an account of the
" Rajah Heider Cawn. His vexation on
" the loss of his victim exceeded all bounds,
" and was aggravated by the certainty that
" I should divulge his villainy. Not content
" with sending troops every way, he was at
" the head of one body himself: but Hea-
" ven preserved the innocent, and pu-

" nished the guilty; for the inhuman, trea-
" cherous tyrant, on his return to his capi-
" tal, was thrown from his horse, and had
" his leg and three of his ribs broken. It
" was now, great as he was, and weak and
" powerless as he thought me, that he felt
" my absence—a lesson that should ever be
" remembered—for as the poor require the
" assistance of the great, so, frequently,
" in the hour of calamity, may the great
" need the assistance of the poor.

" As the cruel and overbearing, in pros-
" perity and health, are ever mean and
" despicable in adversity, so was it with
" Heider, for he sent messengers, who
" rested neither night nor day, to the court
" of Doual Saab, with a request for my
" attendance, giving it under his signet that
" I should return in safety, and an offering
" as hostages the first nobles of his court.
" Doual Saab gave an absolute refusal,
" declaring neither his word nor oath were
" to be relied on: but for myself, I con-
" fess I had the vanity to wish to shew the
" suffering tyrant the difference between

" his faith and mine, and therefore pressed
" Doual Saab to take as hostages those I
" knew he esteemed most, and suffer me
" to go. I was three days before I ob-
" tained his consent, and then, with great
" reluctance, he suffered me to depart with
" two troops of horse—one to receive the
" hostages at the frontiers, the other to at-
" tend me to the Rajah Heider's court.
" Our long delay had, however, proved
" fatal; for a mortification had taken place,
" and the unhappy man died before my
" arrival. Doual Saab was now the ac-
" knowledged Rajah, and his character for
" justice and humanity too well established
" for the people not to rejoice in the ex-
" change; and they accepted a governor
" he sent them with acclamations of plea-
" sure.

" On my return to the court of Doual
" Saab I was received with the most flatter-
" ing kindness; and being one day in the
" princess Selima's apartment with the
" Rajah and Ali, the former said, " Had
" not the example and precepts of my be-

" loved

" loved Selima made me a Christian, thy " conduct, Williams, in respect to Heider, " would have done so; for what heart can " be closed against a doctrine so divine as " forgiveness, and returning good for evil? " It lifts men above the weakness of mor- " tality, and makes them, even on earth, " partake of the nature of angels."

" I waited with impatience for the fol- " lowing year, when I received letters from " the merchant employed to seek my bro- " ther: but these afforded me no satisfac- " tion, as all inquiries had been vain; the " only account obtained being that he had " married a young woman at Exeter, and " left that place with her many years be- " fore, but where he had settled was un- " known.

" In return to these letters I sent others, " desiring that my brother might be adver- " tised in all the newspapers: but I was " never to enjoy the satisfaction of em- " bracing and sharing my good fortune " with him, for this method was as unsuc- " cessful as the former.

" In the mean time the youthful Ali ad
" vanced towards manhood, his improve-
" ment equalled his friends' wishes, and
" was flattering to the share I had in his
" education. Having passed six years in
" the Rajah's court, without being able to
" procure any intelligence of my brother,
" I determined to return to England, and
" seek him myself, but was prevented by
" the declining health of the princess Se-
" lima, who, to our unspeakable grief,
" lingered three years in an almost imper-
" ceptible decline, and at length died in
" the arms of her husband.

" If the Rajah had not been fixed in his
" belief of the Christian faith, the death
" of Selima would have confirmed him in
" its superiority over all others. " I leave
" you, my beloved husband and son," said
" this amiable woman: " but great as my
" happiness has been with you, I go to su-
" perior blessings. Weep not: we shall
" meet again, where all sorrow shall be
" done away, and joys eternal crown our
" re-union."

This

This part of Mr. Williams's story brought the death of Mrs. Richardson so strongly to her husband's memory, that his emotion was observed by Mr. Williams, who, after a moment's pause, pleaded its being late, and begged to defer the remainder of his story until the morning.

CHAP. XXV.

Conclusion of the Adventures of Mr. Williams the Surgeon, and the Rajah Ali Saal.

On the ensuing evening Mr. Williams continued his story.

"You will excuse me," said he, "from "entering minutely into a detail of the ex- "cellent Selima's death: let it suffice to "inform you that it was so exemplary, "that even her Pagan attendants could "not avoid observing it. "What unseen

" Power," said they, " sustains the spirits " of this Christian woman? Surely there is " more in her faith than we have been " taught to believe!"

" I am grieved to pursue a melancholy " detail; for the remembrance of lost " friends, though we believe them placed " at the summit of happiness, calls forth " all our sensibility. The good Rajah sur- " vived his gentle partner but a short " time; and though I tried the whole power " of medicine, all was vain---Ali lost a " father, myself a respected friend, whose " loss I must ever deplore. Before his " death, calling me to his side, he said, " Williams, as fire trieth iron, so doth " calamity prove friendship. Thine hath " passed the fiery ordeal; and though " thou hast relinquished thy country for " me, yet I would fain request a farther " sacrifice. My son is now in the most " dangerous era of his life---he is twenty- " one; he will have power to command " even his most improper wishes. Stay, " therefore, with him, four years. He

" loves without fearing thee; and the voice
" of friendship may restrain him from evil
" when other means might fail: though I
" trust in that Power, which my Selima
" taught me to believe in, that he will con-
" tinue virtuous; yet thy presence will re-
" mind him of past events, and thy advice
" strengthen his youthful mind against the
" temptations of luxury and pleasure."

" Though I was anxious to revisit my
" native land, and seek my brother, yet
" this respectable family for a while en-
" grossed all my sorrows, and I did not
" scruple to give the promise the Rajah
" required.

" On Doual Saab's death, Ali Saab was
" proclaimed Rajah: but in truth it was
" a gloomy solemnity, for the people could
" not rejoice at losing a good sovereign,
" nor the prince a good father. The first
" public audience after the Rajah's death,
" Ali, standing, addressed the people thus:
" My friends, as we have lost a common
" parent, let us endeavour to do honour

to

" to his memory, by acting worthy the
" example he gave us; ye, by quietly ful-
" filling your duties to your families and
" country, by fulfilling the more ardu-
" ous task of the care, safety, and happi-
" ness of the whole. Five mornings in
" each week shall this audience-chamber
" be open to every claimant, myself, with
" the counsel of more aged heads, the
" judge. Then fear not to complain,
" even against myself, if by any means ye
" should be injured; I am a mortal man,
" and liable to error as the weakest among
" you."

" This declaration of Ali's was received
" with unbounded applause; and during
" the four years I had promised to pass
" with him his conduct was exemplary,
" both in regard to his private character
" and his subjects.

" At length the day arrived when I
" should be free from my promise, at
" which period, though I loved Ali as a
" son, I determined to seek my brother.
" The whole day Ali remained alone: but

" the

" the next morning early he sent for me.
" On entering his closet, he embraced me,
" saying, " My dear Williams, yesterday
" I gave to reflection concerning myself,
" for my dear father judged me at twenty-
" five a proper agent. Heaven grant it
" prove so, and support me in acting con-
" formably to his wishes ! To thee I devote
" this day. I have long seen the cloud
" that hangs on thy brows, and an anxi-
" ety respecting thy brother, that, though
" it grieves me, renders thee yet more esti-
" mable ; and that thou mayest not dis-
" tress me by the request which I have
" long foreseen would at this period be on
" thy lips, go to thy native country, and
" fulfil those duties that have so long
" pressed heavy on thy heart : I will en-
" deavour to support the loss of a second
" parent.

" Ali's voice became inarticulate as he
" concluded ; and, for myself, I frankly
" own I forgot the difference fortune had
" placed between us, and clasping his neck,
" wept aloud.

" Ali,

" Ali, in a few minutes, recovered all his
" courage, and continued: " I cannot
" bear to see my friend unhappy. Go
" seek thy friends; thy tears assure me
" that thou wilt not quit me for ever."

" Need I say I assured this excellent
" young man that my stay in England
" should be as short as possible, as I had
" now no spot on earth so dear as his
" country—that if I found my brother, he
" should, if willing, accompany me back,
" or otherwise I would enable him to live
" in ease and credit in England?

" All was speedily prepared for my de-
" parture. I travelled to the English
" settlements, with which Ali and his fa-
" ther had ever been at peace, furnished
" with gold and jewels sufficient to have
" satisfied the most avaricious wishes. A
" ship was ready to sail, in which I em-
" barked, and arrived safely in my native
" country, after an absence of twenty-four
" years.

" My first destination was Exeter: but
" I was a far greater stranger there than

" in

" in India. All my inquiries after my " brother, for some time, proved fruitless, " until one day chance threw me into " company with the curate of a village at " some small distance from Exeter, and " with whom conversing on the subject, " he informed me that he had married the " then young couple, who afterwards went, " he believed, to settle at Warwick, or " near it.

" This intelligence at once determined " me. I departed thither, and with much " difficulty learnt the whole of my bro- " ther's misfortunes, and traced his chil- " dren to the poor-house, from whence I " found, to my great vexation and grief, " they had eloped—an action which, but " for the miraculous interposition of Pro- " vidence, must have proved their inevit- " able ruin."

Mr. Richardson returned thanks to Mr. Williams for his narrative, adding, " I " fancy I need not ask you if you mean to " return to India; though I can truly ex- " press my concern, for I should have " been

" been happy to cultivate your friend-
" ship."

" I shall ever retain the highest sense of
" your condescension and goodness, Sir,"
replied Mr. Williams, " and think myself
" highly honoured by a correspondence
" with you: but India is now far more na-
" tural to me than England. Beside, I
" confess my strongest incentive is my af-
" fection for Ali; he loves me as a son,
" and I love him as a parent. I mean to
" sail with the first ship; my nephew and
" niece shall accompany me. I intend to
" engage a discreet woman to instruct the
" latter; and for Frank, his education will
" be the business of my declining years. I
" have consulted them on the subject, and
" find that the thoughts of leaving your
" excellent family is the only grief they
" will sustain on quitting England."

CHAP. XXVI.

Comments on Mr. Williams's Story.---A Visit to St. Paul's Cathedral.---First Erection of that Edifice.--- Present Building by Sir Christopher Wren.

ON the following morning, Mr. Richardson and his children returned to town, where Mr. Williams, with his nephew and niece, were to follow in a few days, in order to embark for India.

They conversed, in their way to town, on the events Mr. Williams had related, the young people expressing their warmest approbation of his conduct, and their detestation of that of Heider Cawn.

"Unhappy Heider!" replied Mr. Richardson. "He was suffered to go on in his "wickedness till it attained its summit, "when the Almighty crushed him like a "worm. It was his will that he should "go thus far, and no farther; and I leave

" you to judge what must have been the
" feelings of this bloody tyrant, when they
" could force him to stoop to intreat the
" attendance of Mr. Williams,"

" Indeed, my dear Sir," replied Charles,
" I fear I should not have acted like Mr.
" Williams: I should have dreaded to
" have again encountered him."

" Mr. Williams's conduct bespoke at
" once the goodness of his heart, and his
reliance on God. If there were one
" spark of virtue in the bosom of Heider,
" he perhaps hoped to awaken it. God
" had protected him in his flight with Ali,
" which was a far more dangerous enter-
" prise; for Doual Saab knew the tyrant
" sufficiently not to trust him, without
" hostages of the greatest importance."

" Though Ali appears very amiable,
" papa," said Mary, " I cannot but say I
" am sorry that poor Frank and Patty are
" going to a country where the manners
" are so different from ours; and were I
" in their place, though I might say no-
" thing,

" thing, it would make me very un-
" happy."

" Mr. Williams is their nearest relation,
" and appears both able and willing to sup-
" ply the loss of their father; it is there-
" fore a duty incumbent on them to love
" him as such, and to be satisfied in any
" situation where his inclination or duty
" may place him. For example, Mary;
" suppose I was necessitated to go to India,
" I must either leave you behind, or take
" you with me in a melancholy, dissatisfied
" state."

" My dear Sir, how can you be so cruel
" to speak thus," said she, throwing her arms around him. " I could be cheerful
" and happy to travel all over the world
" with you."

" Then why should not Frank and
" Patty? There hearts are, I hope,
" equally susceptible of kindness and gra-
" titude; and I truly believe they will owe
" both those sentiments to their uncle."

This discourse continued uninterrupted until they came within sight of St. Paul's

cathedral, when Charles said, "Some "morning, Sir, will you favour us with "a sight of the interior of that build- "ing?"

"Willingly; and as I am not busy, if "you choose, we will take this opportu- "nity."

The children both expressed their thanks; and leaving their carriage, they walked round the cathedral.

"The best account we have of this "building," said Mr. Richardson, "is "from Sir Christopher Wren, who, in "searching the foundation for his own de- "sign, was confirmed in an opinion he "had formed, that a Christian church had "been built on the spot in the time of the "Romans, by the chancel of the old "church, which was constructed and con- "solidated with a peculiar hard mortar, "after the Roman manner. The first "church is supposed to have been demo- "lished in the Diocletian persecution, but "rebuilt in the reign of Constantine. It "was again destroyed by the Pagan Sax-

"ons

" ons, but restored by Sebert, who ruled
" under Ethelbert, king of Kent, the first
" Christian monarch of the Saxon race
" and who appointed Melitus the first
" bishop of London. The city of London
" being destroyed by fire in 1086, this
" church was burnt. Bishop Mauritius
" began to rebuild it, and laid the founda-
" tion, which remained until its second
" destruction from the same cause in the
" last century. Mauritius lived twenty
" years after he began this great work,
" and Bishop Beauvage enjoyed it twenty
" more; yet such was the extent of the
" design, that it remained unfinished,
" though both had large grants and emo-
" luments bestowed on them by Henry the
" First, towards accomplishing their pur-
" pose; and we are told that it was one
" hundred and fifty years before the whole
" of the edifice was completed. This ca-
" thedral has sustained too many misfor-
" tunes and repairs for me to enumerate:
" but the great fire of London, in 1666,
" made way for the present noble building,

" which was executed under the direction " of Sir Christopher Wren. The height " of this Cathedral is three hundred and " forty feet, the length five hundred, and " the breadth one hundred and eighty."

Mr. Richardson and his children then entered the cathedral, and examined the whole interior of that noble edifice; after which, it being late, they hastened home to dinner.

A Visit to Christ Church.—Antiquity of Bartholomew Fair.—Smithfield the Scene of many remarkable Events.—Account of Oxford-street----Bond-street----Hay-hill---Soho-square.

MR. Richardson was too fully employed the ensuing morning to devote any time to his young people, who, however, he was rejoiced to find, were perfectly satisfied at home. In the evening he was not unmindful of them; and after tea, among other subjects,

subjects, informed them that the banker, who had the money in his hands appertaintaining to Charlotte Glover, had that day paid her the full sum; and he had no doubt but, from the whole of her behaviour, she would make a proper use of it.

"I saw William Parker in the counting-"house to-day, Sir," said Charles, "and "was much pleased when he was absent a "few minutes, to hear how well the clerks "spoke of him."

"I sincerely believe him a good lad," replied Mr. Richardson; "and am not a "a little satisfied to hear that his cousin "George goes on very discreetly, and "that their mothers are likewise doing "well."

The discourse then turned on improving and entertaining subjects; and having passed an agreeable evening, they retired for the night.

Early the next day Mr. Richardson sent for the young folks, and informed them he had business at the foundation, called Christ-Church, of which he was one of the governors

governors, and, if they chose, they might accompany him.

The children expressed their thanks, and on their way thither asked several questions concerning the institution.

" It was," replied he, " originally the " house of Grey Friars or Mendicants, " founded about the year 1225. The " church was reckoned particularly mag- " nificent, endowed by vast sums from " the devout, and so high was the charac- " ter of the poor friars for sanctity, that " many, at the hour of death, intreated to " be laid within their expiatory walls. " Thus multitudes of all ranks were " crowded into this reputed holy ground; " and among others, of the most distin- " guished rank, four Queens—Margaret " the Second, wife to Edward the First; " Isabella, queen to Edward the Second; " Philippa, wife to Edward the Third; " and Isabella, wife to William Warren, " titular queen of Man. On the dissolu- " tion of religious houses, this church, " after being stripped of its ornaments,

was

" was made a store-house for French
" prizes, and the monuments in conse-
" quence destroyed; but Henry the
" Eighth, just before his death, caused it
" to be opened for divine service, and
" granted it to the city. In the short reign
" of that amiable young Prince Edward
" the Sixth, he founded the present cha-
" rity for distressed children, who are fed,
" clothed, educated, and apprenticed at
" proper ages, to different trades. The
" building was consumed in the great fire
" of London, but rebuilt by Sir Christo-
" pher Wren."

Mr. Richardson having performed his business, the carriage proceeded slowly through Smithfield, which their father informed them was the great market for cattle of all kinds, as also the spot where Bartholomew fair is annually kept.

" The fair, if I recollect aright, is very
" ancient, Sir," said Charles.

" It was first granted by Henry the
" Second, and was for several years a scene
" of mirth and festivity: but at length
" becoming

" becoming the resort of the lewd of all
" denominations, many regulations neces-
" sarily took place, which have in some
" measure curbed the spirit, but restored
" the more to be desired property. But
" you have been reading the History of
" England, Charles—cannot you favour
" us with some account of it?"

" It was, Sir," said Charles, " for many
" reigns the scene of tilts and tourn-
" aments, also the spot where accusations
" were decided by combat—a custom de-
" rived from the Saxons; the party that
" prevailed being ever supposed to have
" justice on their side."

" Ah, Charles!" said Mr. Richardson,
" to use an old proverb in those days, how
" often did might overcome right!"

" Too frequently, Sir, I fear," returned Charles. " But I should not omit one
" particular: people of rank fought with
" sword and lance, but the poorer dispu-
" tants were only allowed a pole, armed
" with a heavy sand bag, with which they

" were

" were to decide their guilt or inno-
" cence."

Charles ceased, and Mr. Richardson replied, " But has no other event made " Smithfield remarkable?"

" Yes, Sir. In this spot the rebel Wat " Tyler was slain, being first struck off his " horse by Walworth, lord-mayor of " London, who could no longer endure his " insolence to the youthful monarch " Richard the Second. It has also, Sir, " been the scene of events of so horrible a " nature, that my heart recoils to reflect " on them. This place was called the " Elms, and used for executions at so " early a period as the year 1219. Many " unhappy people have been burnt here " for their religion, and others for atrocious " crimes."

" I am well pleased, Charles, to find " you pay attention to what you read; " and as I have yet some time to spare, " will order the carriage to proceed toward " the more open and fashionable part of " the town."

Mr.

Mr. Richardson then pulled the check-string, and ordered the servant to drive through some of the most-frequented streets.

This command obeyed, they soon reached Oxford-street, which, from its shew and bustle, greatly attracted Mary's attention.

"Public as this street now appears," said Mr. Richardson, "seventy years ago "the greater part of it was unbuilt, and "consisted of a deep hollow road, with "here and there a desolate wretched ha-"bitation, the lurking-place of the most "infamous robbers. Those fine squares "you have passed through with me, in this "vicinity, were then unbuilt, and merely "open ground, covered with filth and "dunghills."

This discourse, with the children's observations, continued until they reached Bond-street, which Mr. Richardson informed them, in the year 1700 consisted only of that part near Piccadilly, New Bond street being then an open field called Conduit-

Conduit-Mead, from one of the conduits in that spot for ſupplying the town with water. Conduit-ſtreet received its name from the ſame cauſe.

The carriage then paſſed through Berkley-ſquare and Hay-hill, when Mr. Richardſon ſaid, "Near this place, then an open "country as far as Charing-Croſs, Sir "Thomas Wyat, with his party, in the "year 1554, made their attack on London, but were repulſed. On the exe-"cution of Sir Thomas, which afterwards "took place, his head was ſet up near the "ſpot, and his parboiled quarters in dif-"ferent parts of the neighbourhood."

As they paſſed homeward, they croſſed Soho-ſquare, which their father informed them was begun to be built in the reign of Charles the Second, when the Duke of Monmouth dwelt in the centre-houſe, but which had now given way to other buildings.

"It was originally," ſaid he, "called "Monmouth-ſquare, and afterwards King's-"ſquare: but, on the Duke's death, it is

" reported, was changed to *Soho*, which " was the word of the day at the battle of " Sedgemore."

As it grew near dinner-time, Mr. Richardson ordered the carriage home, where, on their arrival, they found Mr. Williams, with his nephew and niece.

CHAP. XXVIII.

Mr. Williams, with his Nephew and Niece, embark for India.—A Letter from Frank.—Conclusion.

MR. Richardson was well pleased to find the young people grown apparently attached to their uncle, whose benevolence and disposition made it impossible for grateful minds to be otherwise. They were speedily to embark for India, and nothing appeared to decrease their satisfaction but parting with their youthful benefactors.

At

At length the morning arrived when they were to bid them farewell, which was not done without tears from all parties; the new situation of Frank and Patty not being able to obliterate the memory of the past. Mr. Williams intreated a correspondence with Mr. Richardson, and those gentlemen parted rather as long-established friends than new acquaintance; for congenial minds had at once made them estimable to each other.

Mr. Williams promised to write from the Downs and the fourth day after their departure, as Mr. Richardson was sitting with his children, the servant entered with a box which had just been delivered, directed for his master. On opening it, Mr. Richardson found it came from Mr. Williams, and was much surprised to find, in addition to a letter, some very valuable presents for his children, and which he could by no means return, as the vessel had sailed.

Mr. Williams's letter was expressive of the highest gratitude: but what particu-

larly pleaſed the young people was to see one alſo directed for Charles, and which, on opening, he found came from Frank; and though by no means written in a good hand, was very legible, passably ſpelt, and contained these words:

"My ever dear and beloved young master, I know your goodness too well to make any apology about my bad writing, which, however, I hope will be better the next time I have the honour to write to you, for my good uncle has provided every thing to teach us during the voyage; and we should be very ungrateful not to take equal pains on our part.

"I assure you we are so well dressed, though very plain and neat, that I am in continual fear lest my behaviour should disgrace my appearance; for I should wish to do my utmost not to discredit my uncle's kindness: but I hope, in private, I shall never forget what I have been, and that I owe to others, if it be in my power, what was done for me.

"I cannot

" I cannot refrain telling you one thing: " on our having our new clothes, both " Patty and myself begged so heartily to " be suffered to keep the coat and brown " gown, given us by you and Miss Mary, " that my kind uncle consented, and " bought a little box to hold them, saying, " as he gave us the key, " I rejoice that " you have asked this of me, as I would " ever have you retain a grateful sense of " the favours you have received. Visit " these remembrancers daily; and if ever " you find pride rising in your heart, re- " collect what you have been, the humility " of your birth, and the death of your " worthy parents."

" We could not receive this injunction " without tears; and putting up the " clothes, we deposited with them my " dear father's flagelet and my mother's " prayer-book; so that you see, my dear " master Charles, the remembrance of " your goodness will mix with the venera- " tion we feel for the memory of our ex- " cellent parents. My uncle has, I find,

" had a grave stone put over them in the
" country, and I assure you I have doubly
" loved him since I knew it; for it shewed
" so much affection, that both Patty and
" myself, though we cannot help consider-
" ing him so much above us, forgot it at
" that moment, flung our arms about his
" neck, and kissed his cheeks; and so far
" from being angry, he was quite pleased
" at the liberty we took.

" I, however, am not now obeying him;
" for when he gave me leave to write, he
" said it must be cheerfully; and though
" I would willingly obey him, yet I cannot
" entirely do it.

" Our poor old dog Shock seems as
" much at home as if he had been at sea
" all his lifetime. My uncle is so good to
" him, that Patty said the other day, she
" knew he loved us, for otherwise he
" would not be so kind to the poor
" beast.

" Patty desires her humble respects to
" Miss Mary, and says she will strive hard
" to learn to write, if only for the pleasure

" of

" of writing to her. She likewise begs her " love, as well as myself, to the good " housekeeper, and all the family, that " were so kind to us; and believe me, my " dear master Charles, your ever grateful " humble servant,

" FRANCIS WILLIAMS.

" P. S.—There are immediate orders for " sailing.

This letter pleased all parties, as did also Mr. Williams's; Mr. Richardson only wishing that he had not thought it necessary to make any return for the civility he had received.

Business calling Mr. Richardson abroad, he had the pleasure to see his young people sit down to amuse themselves with their books in his absence; and taking leave of them for the morning, he said, " My dear children, I cannot avoid telling " you how much satisfaction your present " conduct gives me. I trust you have en- " tered into a path of rectitude that will " become habitual to you, and constitute " the happiness of your lives. You study,

" now,

" had a grave stone put over them in the
" country, and I assure you I have doubly
" loved him since I knew it; for it shewed
" so much affection, that both Patty and
" myself, though we cannot help consider-
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" now,

" now, with satisfaction both to me and
" yourselves, and have learnt that plea-
" sure is to be found unconnected with
" profusion and the bustle of the world.
" I remember I promised you a long ram-
" ble, when the weather was more settled,
" and will not neglect my promise."

THE END.

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